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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, September 12, 2014



Nation Pauses to Remember 9/11 Anniversary

Members of the New York Police Department, Fire Department of New York and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department carry an American flag at the beginning of the memorial observances on the 13th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014. In New York, family members of those killed at the World Trade Center will read the names of the victims at a ceremony at ground zero.

(AP Photo/Andrew Burton)

**MARC SANTORA
TATIANA SCHLOSSBERG**
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A new building stands where the towers fell. A museum dedicated to the death and destruction that day is now open to the public. And 13 years after thousands of people died in the deadliest terrorist attack in U.S. history, the ceremonies to memorialize them once again played out across

the country Thursday.

But this year, as families of the victims gathered in Lower Manhattan, at the Pentagon and at a field in Pennsylvania, it was not the work that has been finished but what lies ahead that was shadowing the solemn day.

Even as two blue streams of light pierced the New York City skyline Wednesday night, President Barack

Obama was laying out his case for a stepped up military campaign to defeat a terrorist organization bent on causing more destruction.

"We cannot erase every trace of evil from the world, and small groups of killers have the capacity to do great harm," Obama said. "That was the case before 9/11, and that remains true today."

At 8:46 a.m. Thursday, the time the first plane struck the north tower on Sept. 11, 2001, there was a moment of silence. In Washington, Obama, joined by his wife, Michelle, and Vice President Joe Biden, stood on the White House lawn, heads bowed.

At 9:03, a second pause was taken for the moment a plane hit the south tower. There were four more

moments of silence interrupting the annual reading of the names of those who had died at the World Trade Center - for when each tower fell and for the attack on the Pentagon, also hit by a plane, and the crash of Flight 93 into a field in Pennsylvania, which killed all 40 passengers and crew members.

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Nation Pauses to Remember 9/11 Anniversary



Sophia Demos sits with her daughter, Evniki Tsokanis, 4, among a sea of American flags during a memorial Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, in Matthews, N.C., on the 13th anniversary of the Sept. 11, terrorist attacks. The 2,997 American flags are displayed for each person lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

Continued from Front

At the Pentagon, the Navy Brass Quartet played the national anthem as Obama, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, turned to face an American flag that hung on the rebuilt wall of the Pentagon.

Obama began his remarks with Scripture and remembrances after laying a wreath at the site where the hijacked American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the western side of the U.S. Department of Defense building, killing 184 people. "Thirteen years since the peace of an American morning was broken," he said, speaking to family members of victims and a few survivors. "Thirteen years of moments they would have shared with us."

But he also chose to look forward, and added some positive remarks, despite the solemnness of the occasion. "There are now teenagers, young adults, who were born after 9/11. It's remarkable," he said. "Generations from now, no

matter the trial, no matter the challenge, America will always be America."

In New York, families gathered in Lower Manhattan to read aloud the names of all those killed when the towers fell.

Danielle Kousoulis was on

the 104th floor of the north tower when the first plane hit. She was 29 years old, and would have turned 30 a few weeks after the attacks.

Her parents, Zoe and George, said that while time had not healed the

wounds of that day, they had figured out how to live with the pain.

But they do not know how to feel about America once again stepping up its military fight against a band of extremists.

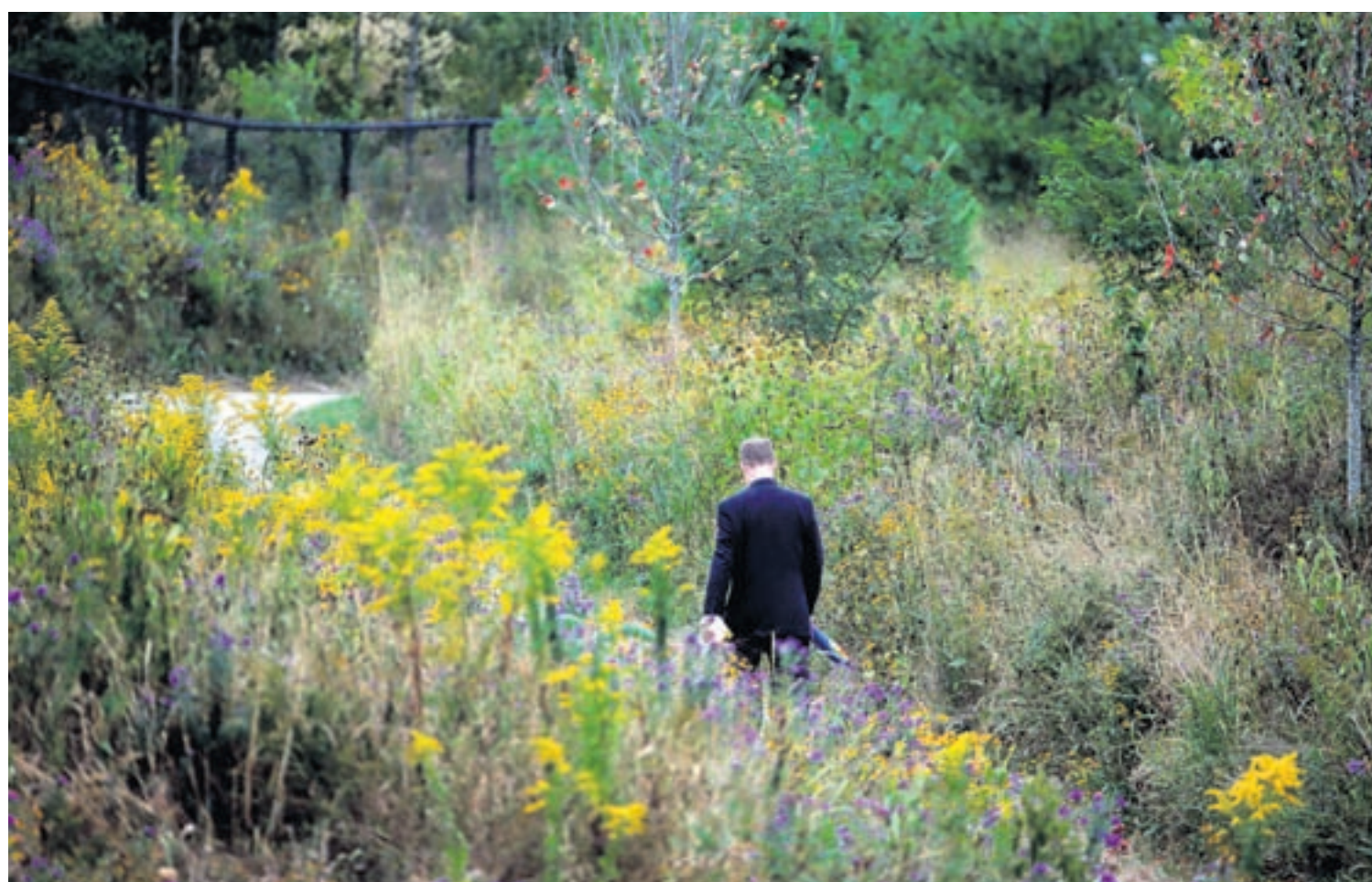
"We do have to somehow

retaliate if people do these things to us, because what ISIS does, that can affect us here," Zoe Kousoulis said. But, she added: "You'd think people would learn to be more tolerant. I can't understand how there can be so much hate. I don't know why we can't have world peace."

Jordan Thompson, 17, from the Bronx, said that he decided to join the Marines because of the attacks on Sept. 11.

His uncle, Leon Bernard Heyward, worked for the parks department and spent weeks clearing rubble and searching for remains at ground zero. He died five years after the attacks as a result of medical complications from the dust and chemicals he was exposed to, Thompson said. "Because of my uncle and what happened here, I want to go help people," he said.

"I want to go over there to try to be a big part of the cause and help people in that region," he said. "Americans died for us to live and be free and died trying to protect those who needed protection. I hope everyone can remember that." □



Gordon Felt, who lost his brother Edward Felt on Flight 93, walks down a path lined with wild flowers before a Service of Remembrance at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa., Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, the 13th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

Obama's request to combat militants draws support

DAVID ESPO

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans and Democrats coalesced Thursday behind President Barack Obama's call to train and arm Syrian rebels fighting Islamic State militants and pointed toward votes in the heat of a campaign for the November congressional elections.

"We ought to give the president what he's asking for," Republican House Speaker John Boehner said, although he swiftly added that many Republicans believe the Democratic commander in chief's strategy is too tepid to crush militants who have overrun parts of Iraq and Syria and beheaded two American journalists.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat, said he expected legislation ratifying Obama's request to clear Congress by the end of next week when lawmakers hope to wrap up their work and go home to campaign for re-election.

Congress is in the midst of a two-week, late-summer session that had been set to focus on domestic issues, principally legislation to extend routine government funding beyond the end of the Sept. 30 budget year. That agenda changed abruptly on Wednesday night, when Obama delivered a prime-time speech from the White House seeking "additional authorities and resources to train and equip" rebels. The forces are simultaneously trying to overthrow Syrian President Bashar Assad and defeat militants seeking to create an Islamist caliphate in the heart of the Middle East. Obama says he already has the authority needed to order airstrikes against the militants in Syria, although so far, those attacks have come only in neighboring Iraq.

The White House and many lawmakers say deployment of U.S. troops to train and equip Syrian rebels — activity planned to take place in Saudi Arabia — would require additional

congressional approval.

On the morning after Obama's speech, the administration deployed a battalion of officials to fill in lawmakers on the president's plan and to field their questions. Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and others drew a large crowd of lawmakers for a closed-door presentation.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Secretary of State John Kerry were expected to testify in public next week when congressional committees hold hearings in advance of any votes in the House and Senate. There was a strong political subtext to the developments in Congress, eight weeks before voters pick a new House and settle a struggle for control of the Senate.

"We do not want to go home without voting on some measure that goes toward destroying and defeating ISIS wherever it exists," said Rep. Michael McCaul, a Republican, using an alternate acronym for the militants.

Reid accused Republicans of taking cheap political shots at the president, and said, "This is a time for the rhetoric of campaign commercials to go away." At the same time, candidates seeking re-election will be required to vote for or against the president's request, and challengers will be on the spot to state their own positions. The issue seems likely to be elevated in importance in a campaign dominated so far by the economy and health care.

Longer term, Republicans served notice they will seek a broader debate.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader and a frequent critic of Obama, said Congress will work quickly on the White House's immediate request. Beyond that, he said Congress must consider "what this multiyear campaign will mean for the overall defense program" — from U.S. nuclear forces on land, sea and air, to a need to "retain dominance" in the Pacific. □



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, to respond to the proposals from President Barack Obama about confronting the new wave of terrorism. On the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Republicans and Democrats in Congress voiced strong pre-election support Thursday for President Barack Obama's call for new authority to combat Islamic State militants in the heart of the Middle East. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

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Feds: Cartel laundered ransom money in fashion hub

AMY TAXIN

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A family pleaded for help from the FBI when an American who delivered cocaine for a drug cartel was kidnapped and held captive in 2012 in Mexico.

After the family paid a \$140,000 ransom, the man was freed and returned to the United States. However, it wasn't the end of the case that led FBI agents to what they now believe was a scheme to launder drug money in the fashion district of Los Angeles and return the cash to a Mexican cartel.

Earlier this week, dozens of businesses were raided by the FBI, homeland security and other officials in an even broader crackdown on money laundering in the country's second most populous city.

Nine people were arrested in connection with three indictments on charges related to money laundering and other financial violations, including the case involving the ransom payment.

Federal prosecutors allege the Sinaloa cartel used the tactic to launder the ransom that was paid to

fashion district wholesaler QT Fashion then divvied up among more than a dozen district businesses.

Four days later, the kidnapped man — who was not identified by U.S. authorities — was back in

tured during his captivity, according to an FBI search warrant affidavit obtained Thursday by The Associated Press.

No federal charges have been filed involving the alleged drug conspiracy, but

Angeles County, the affidavit said.

The FBI later found that some of the blood in the photos sent to his relatives was doctored — apparently a common practice used to frighten victims'

30 cases a year between 2008 and 2011 in the area surrounding Tijuana, most involving victims abducted while visiting family or doing business, said Keith Slotter, who was special agent in charge of the FBI's San Diego office at the time.

"Often times it was they had a relative who was involved in the drug trade and this would be some kind of payback or leverage associated with that," Slotter said.

Since Mexico tightened financial regulations in 2010, the cartels have increasingly turned to international trade to launder drug money by delivering dollars to companies in the U.S. for goods exported to Mexico, then recovering the funds in pesos once the products are sold in a scheme known as a black market peso exchange, U.S. authorities said.

Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office, said he was unaware of other cases involving the laundering of ransom payments. He declined to discuss the prevalence of kidnapping by cartels.

In a 2013 interview with an FBI agent, QT Fashion manager Sang Jun Park acknowledged counting money brought to the company in December 2012 but denied any involvement in the kidnapping, the affidavit states. He said the company sent clothes to Mexican apparel company Maria Ferre on credit and received payments in bulk cash.

Park is one of six defendants indicted in the case unsealed Wednesday against QT Fashion and Maria Ferre. His lawyer, John McNicholas, declined to comment on the allegations.



Law enforcement agents stand outside a clothing store after a raid in the Los Angeles Fashion District. U.S. agents raided dozens of businesses in the fashion district of Los Angeles as part of an investigation into suspected money laundering done for Mexican drug cartels.

(AP Photo/ Nick Ut)

the U.S., telling authorities he had been assaulted with firearms and chainsaws, electrocuted and tor-

the man could face a 22-year sentence in connection with a 2008 arrest on a drug-related case in Los

family into paying ransom, the court papers said.

The harrowing account mirrors those of other Americans who were kidnapped in Mexico during heated clashes between rival cartels several years ago. FBI Director James Comey said Thursday that there has been a spike in kidnappings in Mexico, including American victims.

"I don't have a particular number, but we have seen a significant increase in Americans kidnapped in probably the last two years in Mexico," Comey told reporters during a visit to the FBI's San Diego office.

The FBI's San Diego office was handling 25 to

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APNewsBreak: US sharply cutting deportations

ALICIA A. CALDWELL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is on pace this year to deport the fewest number of immigrants since at least 2007, even as he has postponed

ing a decrease this year of nearly 20 percent.

Over the same period ending in July 2012, Immigration and Customs Enforcement deported 344,624 people, some 25 percent more than this year, according to the

many states, leading to his postponement of any action until after the November elections.

Obama sent his chief of staff to Congress on Thursday to reassure unhappy Latino lawmakers that he still plans

summer 2011 to focus its deportation efforts on criminal immigrants or those who posed a threat to national security or public safety. Many others who crossed into the United States illegally and could be subject to deportation are stuck in a federal immigration court system. Last month the backlog in that system exceeded 400,000 cases for the first time, according to court data analyzed by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University. For each case, it now takes several years for a judge to issue a final order to leave the U.S.

—As Border Patrol agents detain more people from countries in Central America, not Mexico, the volume and circumstances of the cases take more time for

overwhelmed immigration officials and courts to process because, among other reasons, the U.S. must fly such immigrants home rather than letting them walk back across the border into Mexico. A surge in the number of immigrant families, mostly women and young children, has swamped temporary holding facilities, leading the Homeland Security Department to release many people into the U.S. interior with instructions to report back to authorities later.

Asked for comment, Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman Gillian Christensen said the agency has not released removal numbers for this budget year and officials are "still assessing a number of factors that inform ICE's ability to remove individuals." □



Detained immigrant children line up in the cafeteria at the Karnes County Residential Center, a temporary home for immigrant women and children detained at the border, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014, in Karnes City, Texas. Federal authorities want to build a similar immigration lockup facility for families in Dilley, Texas, south of San Antonio amid an unprecedented surge in the number of youngsters pouring across the U.S. border, a federal official said Thursday.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

until after the Nov. 4 Election Day his promised unilateral action that could shield millions more from deportation. According to an analysis of Homeland Security Department figures by The Associated Press, the federal agency responsible for deportations sent home 258,608 immigrants between the start of the budget year last October and July 28 this summer. During the same period a year earlier, it removed 320,167 people — mean-

federal figures obtained by the AP.

The figures, contained in weekly internal reports marked "Official Use Only," reflect the marked decline in deportations even as Obama has delayed announcing what changes he will make to U.S. immigration policies. Immigration advocates widely expect Obama to reduce the number of people who are deported, and that's a particularly sensitive issue in

to act by the end of the year. Lawmakers say that some vented their anger during the meeting with Denis McDonough, who heard them out and pledged action. Since Obama took office, his administration has removed more than 2.1 million immigrants.

There are two principal reasons why fewer immigrants already are being deported:

—The Obama administration decided as early as

Prosecutor:

3 babies' bodies found in filthy house

BLACKSTONE, Massachusetts (AP) — The bodies of three infants were found Thursday in a filthy house where four other children were removed by authorities last month, a Massachusetts prosecutor said. Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early Jr. said authorities don't know when or how the babies died and no one has been arrested in connection with their deaths. He said the state medical examiner will conduct an investigation.

Early said examination of the remains and the house has been complicated by what he called "deplorable" conditions. He said investigators have found flies, bugs, vermin and "piles of used diapers as much as a foot or two high."

Early said four other children ranging age from 13 years old to 6 months old were removed from the house last month after a neighbor who discovered their living conditions notified police. He said the

6-month-old was found covered with feces lying on a bed.

The state Department of Children and Families said Thursday children who were living at the home are in state custody.

Early said it's too soon to know if charges will be filed in the infants' deaths, or against whom, because investigators don't even know who was living at the home when they died.

It wasn't immediately clear where the children's parents were. □

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Case worker: Dad overwhelmed before 5 kids killed

JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, South Carolina

(AP) — A man accused

of killing his five children was an ex-convict whose homes were visited by social workers a dozen times in the last three years.

The children seemed happy and well-adjusted despite occasional spankings, and the family took a summer trip to Disney World and the beach, according to documents released by the Department of Social Services on Thursday. Authorities never found anything serious enough to take the children away, but the documents show Timothy Ray Jones Jr. as a single father and computer engineer struggling to raise his children.



Timothy Ray Jones Jr., is escorted by lawmen out of the Smith County Jail in Raleigh, Miss., Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014 to a vehicle for transport to Lexington County, S.C., where is expected to be charged with murder in the deaths of his five children after he led authorities to a secluded clearing in Alabama, Tuesday, where their bodies were found wrapped in garbage bags.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

In the social worker's last visit — two weeks before the children's disappear-

ance — a social worker summed up Jones' life: "Dad appears to be overwhelmed as he is unable to maintain the home, but the children appear to be clean, groomed and appropriately dressed," wrote the case worker, who name was blacked out, on an Aug. 13 report.

On Aug. 28, Jones picked up his children, ages 8, 7, 6, 2 and 1, from school and day care.

Acting Lexington County Sheriff Lewis McCarty said the three boys and two girls were likely killed soon after that, with Jones loading their bodies in trash bags in his Cadillac Escalade, driving around the Southeast for days with the decomposing bodies.

An intoxicated and agitated Jones was arrested in Mississippi on Saturday, and authorities said he had a form of synthetic marijuana on him. Officers found children's clothes, blood and maggots in his SUV.

Three days later, he led police to the bodies on a remote hillside in Alabama. Authorities said they still don't know his motive, how the children were killed and why they were buried there.

Jones was returned to South Carolina on Thursday to face murder charges.

His first court appearance was Friday, the same day a memorial for his children was to be held in Mississippi, where other relatives live.

In South Carolina, social workers in Jones' hometown of Lexington released their entire 50-page file on Jones. Names of everyone except the father were redacted.

In October 2011, Jones confronted a case worker who demanded he clean up the clothes and blankets scattered on the floor, boxes of food on top of the counter with tools scattered around them where the children could be hurt and an open air vent, where a kid could step and break a leg. The argument got so heated the case worker called deputies, and Jones calmed down when they arrived.

Three days later, the case worker returned and wrote: "observed the home to be VERY VERY VERY CLEAN."



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Teacher hurt in bathroom gun incident

MICHELLE L. PRICE

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A

school teacher who was carrying a concealed firearm at school was struck by fragments from a bullet and a porcelain toilet when her gun accidentally fired in a faculty bathroom on Thursday, officials said. The teacher was injured when the bullet struck a toilet and caused it to explode, Ben Horsley, spokesman for the school district in Salt Lake City, Utah, said. Authorities initially thought the teacher had accidentally shot herself. They now believe she was injured when the bullet and toilet fragments struck her lower leg. The teacher was in good

condition Thursday afternoon in a Salt Lake City hospital, Horsley said.

No other faculty or students witnessed the shooting, but they might have heard the gunshot or seen the teacher as she was helped out of the school to a waiting ambulance, he said.

Classes continued as usual Thursday, and crisis counselors were available, Horsley said. Officials were still investigating how the gun discharged. "This just appears at this point in time to be an accident," he said. Utah is among the few states that allow people with concealed-weapons permits to carry guns in public schools, according to the National Confer-

ence of State Legislatures. Teachers are not required to disclose that they are carrying a weapon, and administrators are prohibited from asking if they carry or barring them from bringing their weapons.

Educators have said they have no way of determining how many Utah teachers are armed, but gun-rights advocates estimated several years ago that 1 percent, or about 240 teachers in the state, are licensed to carry weapons. The Granite School District requires teachers who carry guns at school to keep the weapons with them at all times, including inside a bathroom stall, Horsley said.

US Financial Front:

Applications for unemployment benefits rise to 315K

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — More people sought U.S. unemployment benefits last week, though the trend in

benefit applications in the past month remained low. The Labor Department says that weekly applications for unemployment aid rose 11,000 to a season-

ally adjusted 315,000, the most since late June. Still, the four-week average of applications, a less volatile measure, rose just 750 to 304,000. The average is 7.1

percent lower than it was a year ago.

Applications are a proxy for layoffs. The four-week average fell to an eight-year low of 293,750 last month. Generally, fewer applications indicate employers are holding onto their staffs. The data covers the week ended Sept. 6, which included the Labor Day holiday. Unemployment benefits data can be more volatile around holidays. As a result, the modest increase is unlikely to raise alarms about the health of the job market. "This is nothing to worry about," said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics. "The seasonal adjustment is tricky in the week of the Labor Day holiday. Next week should see a clear drop."

The last time applications touched 315,000, in late June, employers were adding more than 200,000 jobs a month.

Still, the rise in applications comes after employers added just 142,000 jobs in

August, the fewest in eight months. The unemployment rate fell to 6.1 percent from 6.2 percent, but only because some of those out of work gave up looking for jobs. The government doesn't count people as unemployed unless they are actively searching.

Other recent data indicates that the August hiring dip may be temporary. The number of open jobs remained near a 13-year high in July, a government report Tuesday showed. That points to healthier hiring. Employers also filled more of their open jobs in July.

Despite a sluggish August, hiring has picked up this year. The economy has generated an average of 215,000 jobs a month so far in 2014, up from 194,000 in 2013.

Still, the added hiring has yet to lift most Americans' paychecks. Wage growth has barely outpaced inflation since the recession ended more than five years ago.



Laura MacDonald, 25, interviews for an administrative sales position at the Cleveland Career Fair in Independence, Ohio. The U.S. Labor Department reported on the number of people who applied for unemployment benefits last week on Thursday Sept. 11, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

(AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

US budget deficit dips to \$128.7 billion in August

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government ran a lower budget deficit this August than a year ago, remaining on track to record the lowest deficit for the entire year since 2008.

The August deficit was \$128.7 billion, down 13 percent from the \$147.9 billion deficit recorded in August 2013, the Treasury Department said Thursday in its monthly budget report. With just one month left in the budget year, the deficit totals \$589.2 billion, 22 percent below last year's 11-month total.

The Congressional Budget Office expects the government to run a sizable surplus in September that will allow the government to close out the budget year with a deficit of \$506 billion, the lowest since 2008.

The improvement this year has occurred because of a

7.7 percent increase in tax revenues that offset a smaller 0.8 percent increase in spending. Revenues have been boosted by an improving economy and a tax increase that started taking effect in January 2013 that raised taxes on upper income individuals and eliminated a tax break workers had been getting on their Social Security taxes in the aftermath of the Great Recession.

On the spending side, outlays have been restrained by efforts to get control of soaring budget deficits and by an improving economy which has cut spending in such areas as unemployment benefits and food stamps.

With one month remaining in this budget year, outlays total \$3.25 trillion while revenues total \$2.66 trillion.

If the deficit comes in at \$506 billion as CBO is forecasting, that would be 26

percent below last year's imbalance and the lowest annual total since the 2008 deficit of \$458.6 billion.

The 2007-2009 recession and efforts to deal with the financial crisis sent deficits soaring above \$1 trillion for

four straight years.

The deficit hit \$1.4 trillion in 2009 and remained above \$1 trillion for each of the next three years, finally falling to \$680.2 billion last year.

The CBO's latest forecast,

released last month, sees the deficit declining to \$469 billion next year before starting to rise again. The CBO forecast has the deficit climbing above \$800 billion in 2021 and above \$900 billion in 2022 and beyond.



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Arab allies pledge to fight Islamic State group

LARA JAKES
ADAM SCHRECK
Associated Press

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— Key Arab allies promised Thursday to “do their share” to fight Islamic State militants, but NATO member Turkey refused to join in, signaling the struggle the U.S. faces in trying to get front-line nations to put aside their regional animosities and work together to defeat a common enemy. The Arab states’ endorsement of a broad strategy to stop the flow of fighters and funding to the insurgents, and possibly to join military action, came as the CIA doubled its assessment of how many fighters the extremist group can muster.

Both Republicans and Democrats in Congress lined up Thursday behind President Barack Obama’s call to combat the militants, a day after he laid out a long-term campaign that would include expanding airstrikes against the fighters in Iraq, launching strikes against them in Syria for the first time and bolstering the

Iraqi military and moderate Syrian rebels to allow them to reclaim territory from the

the group “wherever it is, including in both Iraq and Syria,” following a meeting

ing to give to the U.S. plan to beat back the Islamic State group, which has

the “particularly poignant day” for the discussions.

“The devastating consequences of extremist hate remain fresh in the minds of all Americans, and to so many of our friends and allies around the world,” Kerry said of the terror attacks on the U.S. 13 years ago. “Those consequences are felt every day here in the Middle East.”

Greater regional support is seen as critical to combatting the spread of the Islamic State group, which has proved so ruthless that even al-Qaida severed ties with it earlier this year. New intelligence assessments estimate the extremists can muster between 20,000 and 31,500 fighters across Iraq and Syria, up from a previous figure of 10,000, the CIA said Thursday.

CIA spokesman Ryan Trapani said the new total reflects stronger recruitment by the extremists since June, following battlefield successes and the group’s declaration of an Islamic state, or caliphate, on territory under its control. Thursday’s meeting in Jiddah ended with Saudi Arabia, other Gulf states, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon pledging to stand against terrorism.



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, center, poses with his Arab counterparts for a group photo after a meeting with them in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014. Kerry’s visit, on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, was aimed at pinning down Middle Eastern allies on what support they are willing to give to U.S. plans to beat back the Islamic State group, which has seized large chunks of Iraq and Syria.

(AP Photo/Brendan Smialowski)

militants.

The 10 Mideast allies announced their backing for a strategy to “destroy”

with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in the Red Sea coastal city of Jiddah.

Kerry’s visit, on the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, was aimed at pinning down how much support regional allies are will-

seized large chunks of Iraq and Syria. Nearly 40 nations have agreed to contribute to what Kerry said would be a worldwide fight to defeat the militants.

In remarks to reporters after the meeting, Kerry noted

Syria, Iran slam US strategy in fighting IS

ALBERT AJI
ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syrian and Iranian officials criticized the Obama administration on Thursday for excluding them from an international coalition coming together in the battle against the Islamic State group, while a state-run Syrian daily warned that unauthorized U.S. airstrikes on Syria may trigger the “first sparks of fire” in the region. The strongest reaction, however, came from Russia, Syrian President Bashar Assad’s main international ally. A Russian Foreign Ministry statement said such military action without a U.N. Security Council resolution “would be an act of aggression and flagrant violation of international law.”

Syria’s main Western-backed opposition group, meanwhile, welcomed Obama’s first-ever authorization of U.S. airstrikes in Syria, saying it stands “ready and willing” to partner with the international community to defeat the militants. But the Syrian National Coalition said that airstrikes need to be coupled with a strategy for ultimately toppling Assad.

Kurdish politicians in Iraq similarly praised Obama’s announcement of wider airstrikes and assistance to Iraqi forces.

“We welcome this new strategy,” said Hoshyar Zebari, a Kurdish politician and one of Iraq’s newly-appointed deputy prime ministers. “We think it will work with the cooperation of the indigenous local forces like Iraqi Security Forces, the

Kurdish peshmerga and other forces.”

“There is an urgent need for action. People cannot sit on the fence. This is a mortal threat to everybody,” he told The Associated Press.

The U.S. began launching limited airstrikes against Islamic State targets in Iraq early last month at the request of former Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. The American firepower provided a significant boost to Iraqi forces, including the Kurdish peshmerga fighters, battling to win back land lost to the militant group.

The Sunni extremists seized roughly a third of Iraq and Syria in their rampage this summer, declaring a self-styled caliphate in areas under their control where they apply their strict interpretation of Islamic law.

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Despite economic fears, EU sanctions Russia again

JUERGEN BAETZ
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union on Thursday slapped more sanctions on Russia for helping separatists destabilize Ukraine, limiting Russia's access to its financial market, hitting the country's vital oil industry, curbing high-tech exports and targeting more officials with travel bans and asset freezes.

Many EU members had been loath to increase the sanctions against Russia for fear of jeopardizing their close trade relationships with Moscow. But a compromise struck in a video conference call with top EU leaders broke a deadlock that had paralyzed the 28-nation bloc from taking tougher action over the past ten days.

Under the compromise hashed out by leaders including Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron, Germany's Angela Merkel and France's Francois Hollande, the sanctions could be reversed within weeks if the cease-fire in eastern Ukraine holds.

In Washington, President Barack Obama announced the U.S. is also moving ahead with tougher economic sanctions on Russia that will affect the country's financial, energy and defense sectors.

If Russia follows through with its commitments to help end the crisis in Ukraine,

the sanctions can be rolled back, Obama said. Otherwise, both the U.S. and the EU said the sanctions would be increased further. The EU sanctions will take effect Friday following their

tions the EU "has effectively made a choice against a peaceful settlement of the crisis in Ukraine."

"Such steps look particularly improper and short-sighted now when a fragile peace

ministry said, adding that Russia will respond to the new sanctions.

Russia has consistently denied what the U.S. and Europe call Moscow's actions to destabilize Ukraine —

eastern Ukraine.

The cease-fire between the separatists and the Ukrainian military took effect Friday but has been riddled by violations. On Thursday, two volleys of Grad rocket fire rang out in the rebel-held eastern city of Donetsk.

A spokesman for Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, Col. Andriy Lysenko, told journalists that a large swath of Ukraine near the Sea of Azov had come under full rebel control. While that likely happened before the cease-fire, it was an unusual admission by Ukraine of the scale of a coastal rebel offensive that Kiev and NATO say was backed by Russian arms and soldiers.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has sought to portray the cease-fire deal — reached as the rebels waged a major offensive that pushed back Ukraine's troops — as a victory rather than a defeat, saying Wednesday that about 70 percent of the Russian troops in eastern Ukraine had since withdrawn.



Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, left, shakes hands with Estonia's president Toomas Hendrik Ilves during a meeting in Kiev, Ukraine, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014.

(AP Photo/Mykola Lazarenko, Pool)

publication in the EU's official journal, the bloc said in a statement.

The Russian stock market sank at the news of sanctions, with benchmark MICEX down 1.3 percent after rising in the morning. The Russian ruble fell to an all-time low of 37.53 against the U.S. dollar.

In a sharp rebuke, Russia's Foreign Ministry said by adopting further sanc-

tion process in Ukraine has gotten under way, a prisoner exchange has started," the

sending arms or soldiers to help pro-Russian separatists fight government troops in

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Cleared of murder, Pistorius faces other charges

SARAH LYALL

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PRETORIA, South Africa

The Paralympic athlete Oscar Pistorius was declared not guilty of murder Thursday when the judge in his case said she accepted the main argument in his defense: that he believed he was firing at an intruder rather than at his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, when he killed her in a burst of gunfire through his bathroom door last year.

But then, after laying out why Pistorius, 27, might instead be guilty of a lesser crime, culpable homicide, the judge abruptly stopped in the middle of her explanation and suspended court without declaring a verdict on that charge.

"We'll have to stop here and resume tomorrow morning," the judge, Thokozile Matilda Masipa, said, less than half an hour after the court had returned from its lunch break.

As he listened to the ver-

dict, tears streamed down Pistorius' face, and then he began sobbing.

knee, was a national hero and an international star for the way that he over-

athletes as well as disabled ones. But the sheen has worn off since the death

said Thursday that he had gotten off too lightly.

"It sends a terrible message about how we tolerate crime in South Africa," said Martin Hood, a prominent defense lawyer. "The message is that you can just kill someone and get away with it."

Masipa is expected to render her decision on the culpable homicide charge, as well as on three lesser firearms charges, when the court meets again Friday. If he is found guilty of culpable homicide, Pistorius could face anything from no jail time to 15 years in prison. It is rare to receive a long prison term for culpable homicide, which is defined as killing through negligence rather than intent. There are no jury trials in South Africa, so it has been left to the judge, with the help of two aides, to render the verdict on her own, and then to read it aloud in court - with a full explanation behind each decision. Incomplete as it is, the verdict has so far provided an answer of sorts to the trickiest and hardest to pin down question in this complex case: What was in Pistorius' mind when he rose from his bed in the early morning hours that Valentine's Day, grabbed a pistol, and pumped four shots through his bathroom door? Did he genuinely think that intruders had broken into his house and were hiding in the bathroom?

That is indeed what he thought, according to the judge, however odd that story seemed. And beyond that, she said, the prosecution had failed to prove that Pistorius' account was false. "If there is any possibility of its being true, then he is entitled to an acquittal," she said. □



Oscar Pistorius sobs as a judge reads the verdict in his murder case in Pretoria, South Africa, Sept. 11, 2014. The trial in the case of the Paralympic athlete abruptly adjourned Thursday with one charge of unlawful homicide against him still pending. The judge, Thokozile Matilda Masipa, had earlier cleared Pistorius of the gravest murder charges against him.

(Kim Ludbrook/Pool via The New York Times)

Pistorius, whose legs are amputated below the

came his disability to compete against able-bodied

of Steenkamp on Feb. 14, 2013, and some people

UN Peacekeepers released by captors in Syria

BEN HUBBARD

© 2014 New York Times

BEIRUT - Forty-five members of a U.N. peacekeeping force who had been held captive for two weeks by an affiliate of al-Qaida in southern Syria were released on Thursday in good condition, the U.N. said.

The Qaida affiliate, called the Nusra Front, said in a video posted online before the release that it had dropped its demands for a prisoner exchange and the delivery of humanitarian aid, and that it would instead release the soldiers without condition.

The capture of the peacekeepers, all of whom are from the Pacific island na-

tion of Fiji, highlights the dangers that the Syrian civil war poses for international organizations that continue to operate in the region.

The Fijians were serving in the U.N. Disengagement Observer Force, which has been monitoring the demarcation line between Syria and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights since 1974. Fighters from the Nusra Front captured them last month after a coalition of Syrian rebel forces seized a crossing point on the demarcation line, defeating Syrian government forces there.

Nusra fighters also surrounded two groups of

Philippine peacekeepers in their bases nearby, and exchanged fire with one of them. Both groups later fled to an Israeli-controlled zone. In a statement issued after the Fijians were captured, the Nusra Front said it was holding them in retaliation for what it called the failure of the U.N. to help Syrians during the civil war. In that statement, the group issued no demands for their release. However, in the video posted online on Thursday, a ranking Jordanian cleric from the militant group, Sami al-Oreidi, said the Nusra Front had originally wanted to trade the peacekeepers for prisoners being held by un-

named "tyrants," and for guarantees that aid would be delivered to rebel-controlled areas that are besieged by government forces in Syria. Al-Oreidi, who is seen in the video wearing Afghan-style clothing and standing in a grove of trees with the Fijian soldiers sitting cross-legged behind him, said the group learned after it captured the Fijians that a Nusra Front doctor had promised safety to the peacekeepers. So the group sought the advice of a jihadist cleric in Jordan, Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi, who told the group to respect the doctor's promise and free them, al-Oreidi said. □



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Venezuela's UN Security Council bid gains backing

JOSHUA GOODMAN
Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— Venezuela's socialist government has quietly secured the backing of Latin America and the Caribbean to obtain a diplomatic trophy that long eluded the late Hugo Chavez: a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

The unanimous endorsement of Venezuela's candidacy to represent the region on the Security Council came at a closed-door meeting July 23 in New York, said Amin Cruz, a diplomat at the U.N. from the Dominican Republic, which presided at the meeting. When Chavez last tried for a seat in 2006, the United States succeeded in torpedoing his campaign. This year, Washington has been mum.

While Venezuela must still muster a two-thirds majority in a secret ballot of 193

member nations at the U.N. General Assembly next month, the lack so far of a rival candidate from the region means the chances

leaders will almost certainly hear some fiery rhetoric from El Comandante's favorite daughter, Maria Gabriela Chavez, who last



Daughter of the late Hugo Chavez, Maria Gabriela Chavez and Venezuela's newly sworn-in President Nicolas Maduro, join in the singing of their national anthem in the National Assembly, in Caracas, Venezuela. In a July 23, 2014 closed-door meeting July at U.N. headquarters in New York, Venezuela quietly secured the backing of Latin America and the Caribbean to obtain a seat on the United Nations Security Council. Maria Gabriela Chavez is Venezuela's alternate ambassador to the U.N. (AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

of its candidacy being derailed are slim, analysts say. If it does win a seat, world

month was named Venezuela's deputy ambassador to the U.N. And since

countries sit alphabetically in the council chamber, Venezuela would almost certainly end up next to the United States, perhaps provoking some dramatic moments when the two governments butt heads on big issues, from the crisis in Ukraine to Syria's civil war.

The region's willingness to rally behind Venezuela troubles critics of President Nicolas Maduro and his crackdown on anti-government street protests. While the U.S. and human rights groups have accused regional leaders of being too timid in responding to the unrest, which left 42 people dead, an affinity with Maduro's anti-U.S. stance in many parts of Latin America and his use

of Venezuela's extensive oil wealth to win allies among poorer Caribbean nations mean few governments are eager to publicly take Caracas to task.

"Venezuela's tendency to side with abusive governments makes it a less than ideal candidate to help manage the many human rights tragedies the Security Council is currently facing," said Philippe Boloignon, U.N. director at Human Rights Watch.

Venezuela's foreign ministry declined to comment about the Security Council bid, or even acknowledge it was seeking a seat.

Continued on page 27

As Venezuela economy slows, fears of default

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— President Nicolas Maduro is reassuring foreign creditors that Venezuela's government will make good on a \$4.5 billion foreign debt payment due next month. But economists are uttering the D-word for the first time, noting the inflation-ravaged economy is stumbling with basic goods in short supply and the currency eroding in value.

Maduro has repeatedly said default is not an option. On Wednesday, he reiterated his administration's commitment to pay "down to the last dollar."

The subject gained traction in recent days, and even got its own Twitter hashtag, after an article by former Venezuelan planning minis-

ter Ricardo Hausmann and Harvard economist Miguel Angel Santos argued that a managed default could help Maduro resuscitate the economy and help his people.

"The fact that his administration has chosen to default on 30 million Venezuelans, rather than on Wall Street, is not a sign of its moral rectitude. It is a signal of its moral bankruptcy," they wrote.

The article was followed by a swing in the trading of Venezuela's debt. On Thursday, investors appeared to take comfort in Maduro's words and prices for its bonds rebounded. Venezuelan bonds pay out more to investors than the debt of any other developing country.

Government opponents

have stopped short of endorsing the notion of a default. Venezuela's 15-year-old socialist administration has always paid its bondholders, though it hasn't been as consistent about repatriating corporate profits. This year has seen an exodus of airlines that complain they haven't been allowed to turn their local earnings into dollars. Alejandro Grisanti of Barclays this week dismissed the notion of a default, noting that Venezuela could easily find the money it needs to pay off foreign creditors by halting the oil subsidies it distributes to allies around the region. The country boasts the world's largest proven oil reserves, providing a constant flow of income for the government.

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Eying Scotland, Spain Catalans seek secession vote

JOSEPH WILSON
ALAN CLENDENNING
Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)

— Hundreds of thousands of Catalans energized by Scotland's upcoming independence referendum protested Thursday for a secession vote aimed at carving out a new Mediterranean nation in what is now northeastern Spain. The events illustrated how the Scottish vote in just one week is captivating break-away minded Europeans in several countries.

Sporting bright yellow and red shirts representing the colors of the Catalan flag emblazoned with the phrase "Now is the time," protesters in Barcelona shouted "Independencia!" They crowded into two avenues that look like a "V" from the air to signal their desire for a Catalonia independence referendum that the central government in Madrid insists would be illegal.

Just how many showed up was in dispute after the protest ended Thursday evening. Barcelona police said 1.8 million people participated but the Spanish Interior Ministry's regional office in Catalonia put the number at no more than 525,000, among them retired hospital director and economist Lluís Enric Flor-

enca.

"If the Yes wins in Scotland, and it looks like it will be close, and Europe accepts it, they will accept Catalonia, which is bigger and in

erendum in the region of 7.6 million people, even though experts say any attempt is sure to be blocked by Spain's Constitutional Court. Mas has repeatedly

press themselves at the polls."

Polls have suggested that Scotland's independence vote on Sept. 18 is too close to call and that has

speakers in Belgium demanding more autonomy, independence or union with the Netherlands.

"The dynamics at this point are with the Yes side, and if the Yes side actually wins it creates a strong precedent," said Hugh O'Donnell, a professor of cultural politics at Glasgow Caledonian University.

Unlike the Scottish ballot, a vote in Catalonia wouldn't result in secession. Mas' proposed referendum would ask Catalans whether they favor secession. If the answer is Yes, Mas says, that would give him a political mandate to negotiate a path toward independence.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has vowed to block the vote because Spain's constitution doesn't allow referendums that don't include all Spaniards, but Mas told reporters that would be a mistake.

"The Catalan issue is one of the biggest issues the Spanish government is facing," Mas said. "It is an error to try and solve this through legal means. Political problems are solved through politics, not with legal threats."

If Madrid refuses to allow an independence vote, a go-ahead by Mas could put him in perilous legal terrain. When the northern Basque region failed to obtain permission for a similar referendum in 2005, Spain said Basque leaders could face jail if they went ahead.

The next step for Mas comes the day after Scotland's vote, when the Catalan parliament is expected to approve a measure giving him the power to call a referendum. Rajoy's government is then expected to ask Spain's Constitutional Court to rule the vote illegal and experts believe the court will do so. If that happens and Mas decides to obey the ruling, he could hold Catalan regional elections as an unofficial referendum, with parties obliged to state where they stand on independence.



People wave "estelada" flags, that symbolize Catalonia's independence, in Barcelona, Spain, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014. A week before Scotland votes on whether to break away from the United Kingdom, separatists in northeastern Spain were trying to convince hundreds of thousands to protest across Catalonia to demand a secession sentiment vote that the central government in Madrid insists would be illegal.

(AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti)

relation to Spain stronger than Scotland in relation to England," said Florenca, 65. "Catalonia is potentially much more powerful."

Catalonia regional leader Artur Mas said his government is not wavering from plans to hold a Nov. 9 ref-

said he won't call an illegal vote.

"This is a very powerful message we are sending to Europe and the world," Mas said. "Now is the moment to sit down and negotiate the terms for the Catalan people to be able to ex-

captivated a wide variety of groups in addition to Catalan separatists. They include pro-independence Basques in northern Spain; Corsicans who want to break away from France; Italians from several northern regions; and Flemish

European states struggle with Draghi's challenge

DAVID McHUGH
JUERGEN BAETZ
Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— European Central Bank head Mario Draghi made the first move in his grand plan to rescue the economic recovery. Now it's over to the governments of the 18 countries that use the euro.

Eurozone finance ministers gather Friday and Saturday for the first time since the ECB president sketched out what has been dubbed "Draghinomics": a three-pillared strategy including more stimulus from the central bank, added government spending and pro-business reforms to cut

bureaucracy and make economies more productive.

Problem is, Draghi as an unelected central banker only controls the monetary pillar, while governments hold sway over the other two.

The finance officials meeting in Milan, Italy, now have a chance to show Europe's politicians are ready to help, too.

On the eve of the meeting, Draghi made a blunt appeal for action, saying Europe's trouble "can only be addressed by concerted action" by "all actors, both at the national and European level."

Business investment had

grown only slightly since 2008, he said.

"We will not see a sustainable recovery unless this changes," he said in the text of a speech for delivery at the Eurofi Financial Forum in Milan.

The case for action is pressing: Europe's economy showed no growth in the second quarter. That followed four quarters of unsatisfying recovery from a crisis over high government debt. Unemployment remains at a painful 11.5 percent.

The ECB on Sept. 4 did its part by cutting its benchmark interest rate to a record low 0.05 percent. It also said it would buy

bonds backed by bank loans — a step aimed at increasing bank lending to companies. And it held out the possibility of broader bond purchases, a move that would aim to make credit cheaper still.

But Draghi's challenge to governments remains a tough sell. Some of the key reasons:

—With tight EU rules on public deficits, there's little room for more government spending on projects that would help economic growth.

—The push for pro-business reforms in two of the more troubled countries, France and Italy, faces political headwinds.



Perfect Events Don't Just Happen, They Are Planned by Divi



EAGLE BEACH - The Alhambra ballroom hosted a lavish reception just recently showcasing Divi's culinary excellence in anticipation of the upcoming holiday party-season. Invited guests sampled many delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by Divi's culinary team, while enjoying live entertainment and dance music for a spectacular finale.

Guests were greeted with A Touch Of Steel music upon arrival and presented with a chilled flute of champagne. They were then treated to a great variety of delights prepared and served, by Corporate Chef Matt Boland, and Executive Chefs Anthony de Palm and Gerard Coste, hard at work slicing and plating many delicacies served as shooters, tapas and small plates in the ballroom, with entertain-



as many others working for the five Divi properties on the island, namely Divi Aruba All Inclusive, Tamarijn

Aruba All Inclusive, Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort, Divi Dutch Village and Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. In the words of Managing Director Alex Nieuwmeier: From beach to ballroom, Divi Banquet and Events team is ready for any challenge, introducing big and small locations for fabulous customized holiday parties, in collaboration with Tsunami, The Purple Entertainment Group, SwingMasterzPro Sound, Lights & DJ's, Mosaic event decorations, Koolman's Flower Shop, and the Aruba Trading Company. The menu included amazing appetizers and main courses and culminated with a varied assortment of petites fours, over bottomless cocktails, wine and beer.

Pictured here, the fabulous holiday party at Alhambra ballroom. □



ment by El Professor Nichola, Angela Flores and Amy Sorinio.

Having witnessed the cooking firsthand, guests were greeted by the entire Divi Executive Team, including Managing Director Alex Nieuwmeier, Director of Banquet and Events Sales, Inge Van Roon and her team, General Managers Gerrit Griffith, Marin Bijl, and Patrick Franssen, Food and Beverage professionals Armando Boekhoudt, and Michael Ras, as well



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Team Aruba Overcomes Adversity to Compete in Dragstock XI



ORANJESTAD/ROCKINGHAM, NC - It's probably safe to say that of all the PDRA Extreme Pro Stock teams, Team Aruba always has the farthest to travel. As the only international entry, driver Trevor Eman and part of his crew must first fly from their home in Aruba to Charlotte, N.C. before making their way to their Union, S.C. race shop. From there they start leg two of their journey in driving to the event. Last week, it was this second part of the journey that nearly kept them from making it to their home stop on the PDRA tour. The team's motorhome suffered a major parts breakage that would not be fixable in time to get them to Dragstock XI in Rockingham, N.C.

"Getting to Rockingham was a big struggle," told Eman. "With the motorhome out of commission, we were unable to leave

our shop on the day we wanted to travel to Rockingham. Shawn Scruggs with the Greenville, S.C. based Scruggs Transport and Towing towed our motorhome to a shop, but we were still left without a way to tow our trailer to Rockingham. After having spent some time with Shawn while he was hooking up our motorhome to his tow truck, we discussed the possibility of getting our race trailer to Rockingham, which he was kind enough to offer to help us with.

"Sure enough, the next morning he transported our race trailer to Rockingham and both him and his son, Blake, spent the entire weekend with us, where we became better acquainted and developed a friendship."

Eman qualified the Aruba.com Mustang in the sixth spot with a 4.126 elapsed time at 175.64 MPH. However, when race day

dawned, Mother Nature was the only winner, stealing the show and any hope of eliminations. The remainder of Dragstock will be completed at the upcoming PDRA Championship Finals, October 9-11 at Virginia Motorsports

Park. Despite the difficulties incurred over the course of the weekend, Team Aruba was happy to participate in the event, which boasted one of the largest car and spectator counts of the year. The event was even more special for them as they welcomed special guests from Aruba. "With this being the track closest to our hometown location of our race shop in Union, SC, it is also the race that is easiest to get to from Aruba with a straight flight to Charlotte," Eman explained. "Therefore, we had the pleasure of having both my uncle (father's brother) and my great uncle join us for this race, after having spent a couple of days with us at our house and shop in Union.

"My father was very excited about having them both join us, because my great uncle is the reason

why my father and his brothers got involved in racing. So in essence, all that we have done racing wise in the U.S. is my great uncle's fault. This was the first time my great uncle got to see what our operation consists of, and I take it he was very impressed."

After the rain out, Shawn Scruggs transported the Team Aruba race trailer back to their Union shop. "Team Aruba cannot thank Shawn enough for his kindness in helping us get safely to and from the track. If it wasn't for his help, we would not have been able to even show up in Rockingham.

"We look forward to completing the Rockingham event in a few weeks at Virginia."

Keep up with Team Aruba on Facebook and Twitter. Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba! □



Trop Club & Casino Set for Action-Packed Weekend!



PALM BEACH – The Trop Club and Casino is gearing up for an activity-filled, entertaining weekend, kicking off with Friday's 5pm Bingo Tournament. With \$1,500 in cash prizes, the weekend bingo games will be hosted by singer Jermina and a local celebrity bingo host, vocalist Ufo Escudero.

Visitors are then invited to stick around after bingo for the Drinkin' with Lincoln Happy Hour. Starting at 7pm, the bar lounge offers \$5 specials on food and



draft beers, which patrons may enjoy while grooving along to the live Caribbean and international music of 3SOM, featuring Ufo, Michael and Jermina. Feel free to request your favorite song, and even sing along if the mood strikes you!

Saturday at 2pm, one of the most highly anticipated fixtures in La Liga calendar, the reigning champions Atletico Madrid, travel to the Estadio Santiago

Bernabeu, to take on their city rivals Real Madrid. The game will be shown in the lounge, besides all favorite NFL games, and other important sporting events, all unfolding on 4 huge 12-foot screens and 20 HD TVs, including Saturday night's, Mayweather vs. Maidana 2, Live on Pay Per View, the fight starts at 8pm.

Also on Saturday, Bingo starts at 5pm, offering up \$1,500 in cash prizes, followed by a Black Jack



Tournament. The Black Jack Tournament, starting at 7pm, features a \$500 guaranteed prize purse. The buy-in is just \$5, with re-buys available for 25 earned points. The popular 3SOM band will be back on deck to entertain the crowds, while in the bar lounge, sports are ongoing, as the lounge is the perfect spot to watch any kind of game.

Sunday's bingo game, starting at 4pm, also offers

\$1,500 in cash prizes. The bar lounge will be showing all major NFL games, from 11am till late. The Trop Club and Casino has been staging spectacular promotions and events over the year, entertaining slot and table players with many different tournaments and events, explains Wilfred Trimmon, Casino Director inviting players to sign up for the Trop Advantage Card, guaranteed to deliver great gifts and surprises. □

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Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill Welcomes Back Loyal Guests Rob and Yvonne!

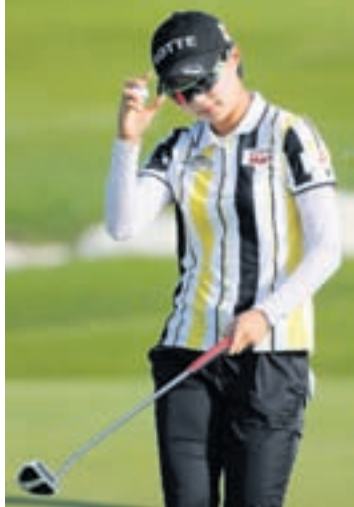
PALM BEACH - Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill located on the Palm Pier between Riu Palace Hotel and Radisson Aruba Resort at Palm Beach welcomes back dear loyal guests Rob and Yvonne Anlevse from New Orleans, Louisiana. 15 years and counting, they have been visiting Bugaloe every time. The Anlevse family come from the beautiful city of New Orleans, Louisiana and choose to stay at the entertaining Radisson Aruba Resort. The perfect location to wake up, and start your day with a cup of coffee at Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill. For 15 years straight Rob and Yvonne have chosen Aruba as their ultimate paradise vacation. The great people and weather is

the right combination for a well-deserved vacation. Chilling at the beach or in the water and having a couple of beers at Bugaloe is their ideal pastime. During one of their many trips they walked right in to Bugaloe, when it was still named Kokoa. Much has changed since then, but they've always loved the place for its friendly staff, the view and the ice cold beers. Amstel Bright Beers to be precise! Delicious and unavailable in the States. What they like best at Bugaloe? Yvonne: "We enjoy watching the staff when they surprise each other by throwing a bowl of crushed ice at each other". That's exactly what it's all about



at Bugaloe: enjoy, relax and sip away watching the sun set in the turquoise ocean. The Bugaloe Crew would like to

thank Rob and Yvonne for being such loyal Bugaloe guests, always bringing their fun and laughter to the Bugaloe Bar. ☐



Hyo Joo Kim, of South Korea, acknowledges the crowd after finishing the first round of the Evian Championship women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014.
Associated Press

Kim makes history with lowest major score of 61

JEROME PUGMIRE
AP Sports Writer
EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France
(AP) — South Korean teen Hyo-Joo Kim made history look easy, with barely a glitch as she posted the lowest score ever in a major with a 10-under 61 to open the Evian Championship on Thursday.
To boot, the first round of her major debut achieved perfect symmetry, with five birdies each on the front and back nine.
"I made a chance (for) a birdie on every (hole)," she said. "I missed some (but) it didn't matter."
If she didn't sound fussed about the 61, it's because she did it last year on Japan's JLPGA circuit.
"My goal is to have a good experience here. That's all," said the 19-year-old Kim, who was in the first year of a physical education course at Seoul University.

Continued on page 19

LAKE SUPERIOR



Kirk stays in control of FedExCup with opening 66

Chris Kirk chips to the second green during first round of play in the Tour Championship golf tournament Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, in Atlanta.
Associated Press
Page 21



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Aru wins Vuelta's 18th stage, Contador still leads

MONTE CASTROVE, Spain (AP) — Fabio Aru of Italy surged to win the Spanish Vuelta's hilly 18th stage, while Alberto Contador kept the leader's red jersey on Thursday with three stages remaining. Chris Froome finished one second behind Aru, gaining time and improving to second overall, and Alejandro Valverde came third 13 seconds behind. Froome, who charged up the category-2 Monte

Castrove ascent with Aru on his tail, was one minute, 19 seconds behind Contador, having overtaken Valverde, who was third overall, 1:32 down. "I'm really happy because I decided to challenge from three-and-a-half kilometers out despite having been told it would be really tough from that point," said Aru, who also won Stage 11 on Sept. 3. Although Contador looked tired and con-

ceded time to Froome, he appears totally recovered from the broken shin that forced him to retire from the Tour de France on July 15. "It was a complicated ascent, with many rhythm changes, and though I would have preferred not to have lost time overall, I don't think the loss has been too major," Contador said. "Saturday's stage will be defined purely by physical fitness and

I'm hoping these seconds I've lost today won't turn out to have been too important." The riders climbed up Monte Castrove twice, with bonus points available at the bottom of the descent. Keen to make up time, Froome sprinted hard there and despite there being some confusion among riders over the exact position of the sprint banner, the British rider gained two seconds

before powering up the final ascent. At that point, Froome was hemmed in by Movistar riders, but Valverde was lagging too far behind to be able to challenge him. The 19th stage on Friday is also hilly, 180.5 kilometers (112 miles) from Salvaterra do Mino to Cangas do Morrazo, and featuring two category-2 ascents. The race ends on Sunday after another mountain stage and an individual time trial. □

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Kim make history

Continued from page 17

Her good experience exceeded the previous best score in a major of 62, by Minea Blomqvist of Finland in the third round of the 2004 British Open — also when she was 19 — and Lorena Ochoa in the first round of the 2006 Kraft Nabisco Championship. In a men's major, 63 is the lowest, and it has been achieved multiple times.

because the rough is very thick. Her accuracy into the greens means that she's never far away. She also has a very good temperament, and even on days when she's fighting and putts don't fall, she keeps going." Kim is ranked 20th in the world, and leads the Korean LPGA money list with three wins. She takes a four-shot lead over veteran Karrie Webb into the second round of the last major of the year. Korean Mi-Jung Hur was

after five weeks out and missing four tournaments following a stress reaction in her right index finger. She wore blue strapping around her hand. "I had hoped it was a week later but I just really wanted to come to France. I really love this tournament," she said. "The doctors told me 'It's all up to you.' But they did tell me if it did hurt to stop right

away because it could get worse. "I should have stopped earlier but I was having so much fun out there." Wie believed she should be able to play next month, in Asia. The 39-year-old Webb had eight birdies but was undone by two bogeys. The last of Webb's seven majors was at the Kraft Nabisco in 2006, the year

she won at Evian. "Probably the best I putted for a long time. Switched to an old putter I used about 12 years ago," the Australian said.

"I changed swing coaches in the middle of the season, so I've actually probably put more work in through the summer than I normally would. The changes are starting to click."



Suzann Pettersen, of Norway, plays on the 16th hole during the first round of the Evian Championship women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014.

Associated Press

"I like a hard course," Kim said. "I felt very comfortable today." Blomqvist and Ochoa might still be holding their record if not for Kim's remarkable escape on the third hole, when she went into the bunker off the tee and still got a birdie. "She had a few up and downs and a chip-in on the third, par four ... after she shot a little bit left," her caddie Gordon Rowan said. "She had a very difficult chip." "She's not a massive hitter but has a very decent length, and keeps up with the girls. She's so straight and this is a course where you need to hit fairways

five behind Kim in third after a round of 66, while defending champion Suzann Pettersen of Norway and Brittany Lincicome of the U.S. were six behind. Inbee Park, bidding for back-to-back majors after defending her title at the LPGA Championship, was tied for 12th at 2 under. Meanwhile, Michelle Wie's bid for a second major ended early as she retired after just 13 holes, clearly still feeling the effects of a recent finger injury. Wie had two double bogeys and was 5 over when she pulled out. The U.S. Women's Open champion was returning

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U.S. beats Lithuania to reach basketball world final

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Madrid awaits. Spain doesn't.

The gold-medal matchup seemingly everyone wanted in the Basketball World Cup — maybe even some U.S. players — won't be happening. The Spanish were upset in the quarterfinals, ending the predicted No. 1 vs. No. 2 game Sunday on Spain's home court.

"I think that's one of the reasons why we came over here, was to play them," U.S. guard Derrick Rose said. "Too bad we're not playing them and hopefully we go out there in our next game and play hard and just know that we're there for a reason."

The Americans held up their end, moving within a victory of repeating as world champions for the first time with a 96-68 victory over Lithuania on Thursday night.

James Harden scored all of his 16 points in the lopsided third quarter of a near carbon copy of the Americans' quarterfinal victory over Slovenia, when he awoke from a scoreless first half to help turn a close game into a blowout.

The Americans will face France or Serbia, believing either could provide the test that was expected from Spain.

"Obviously they're playing there for a reason," Harden said. "We're not going to take anyone lightly, which we haven't thus far."

They will arrive as even heavier favorites after Spain's stunning loss to France on Wednesday. With their veteran experience and near misses against the U.S. in the last two Olympic gold-medal games, the Spanish were considered the team with the best chance — perhaps the only one — to beat the Americans.

Harden was told that forward Kenneth Faried said he'd wanted to play Spain. "Kenneth's crazy," Harden said.

Some U.S. players watched the game Wednesday, while others learned the result afterward. Talk of a U.S.-Spain final had lasted as long as the tournament, and though the Americans tried to ignore it, guard Ste-



United States's Kenneth Faried, left, dunks the ball in front of Lithuania's Jonas Valanciunas during their Basketball World Cup semifinal match at the Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona, Spain, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014.

Associated Press

phen Curry acknowledged that was impossible.

"I don't think we're disappointed, or wished we played a certain team," Curry said. "We're happy to take care of our business."

Their opponent will have to show it can hang with the Americans for more than a half, which nobody in Barcelona did.

This one was an eight-point game at the break before the U.S. made 14 of 19 shots in the third quarter and outscored Lithuania 33-14.

Kyrie Irving had 18 points and Klay Thompson added 16 for the Americans in a rematch of the 2010 world basketball championship semifinals, also played on Sept. 11, the date of the terrorist attacks on the U.S. in 2001. Kevin Durant scored a U.S.-record 38

points in that one, an 89-74 victory.

That was a rare comfortable margin in this series where close games have been the norm. That includes the 2012 Olympics, where the Americans' 99-94 win was their tightest in London.

The physical play nearly turned ugly when DeMarcus Cousins reacted angrily after appearing to be elbowed in the neck by center Jonas Valanciunas of the Toronto Raptors while battling for a rebound. He wound up as if he were going to punch Valanciunas in the back of the head, drawing a technical foul.

The Americans then threw the knockout blow, coming out of the locker room with an 18-2 run — emphasis on run, because they turned this semifinal game into a fast-break drill. □

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Kirk, Horschel share lead at Tour Championship

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Chris Kirk and Billy Horschel have little in common except a clean card of 4-under 66 at the Tour Championship and their chances at the biggest payoff in golf.

Kirk and Horschel, the top two seeds going into the FedEx Cup finale at East Lake, played in the final group and traded birdies — neither of them made a bogey — over four hours in steamy weather to share the lead.

They need only to win the Tour Championship to claim the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million bonus.

"Billy has obviously been playing some pretty incredible golf with winning last week and finishing second the week before," Kirk said. "And I've been doing all right myself."

Kirk is a 29-year-old who went to Georgia and plays

golf without a pulse. Even when he chipped in from 80 feet on the 17th hole, he simply smiled and bowed his head before slapping hands with his caddie.

Horschel is a 27-year-old who went to Florida, brash enough to wear octopus prints on his pants in the final round at a U.S. Open, to flip his cap around backward and to pump his fist for routine pars.

They grew up playing amateur golf against each other. They were teammates in the Walker Cup.

And they are leading the race to the FedEx Cup.

"We're probably two completely opposite people in the sense that he just looks like he's moving very slow and nothing affects him," Horschel said. "I look like I'm running around the golf course — literally last Sunday. But Chris and I get along very well. We seem to always play well when



Billy Horschel hits from the tee on the third hole during first round of play in the Tour Championship golf tournament Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

we're paired together." Horschel won the BMW Championship last week

and was seen sprinting off the fairway toward a portable toilet because he couldn't hold it anymore. Kirk won the Deutsche Bank Championship the previous week, and he surprised even himself when twice — a career high — he pumped his fist after making a putt.

They didn't have the course to themselves. Masters champion Bubba Watson made seven birdies to offset a few mistakes, such as trying to hit a shot through a gap in the trees. It worked at Augusta National two years ago. His ball clipped a branch Thursday, leading to double bogey.

A bogey from the bunker on the par-3 18th hole gave him a 67, leaving him in reasonable shape. Watson was tied with Patrick Reed, Jim Furyk and Jason Day.

The top five seeds need only to win the Tour Championship to claim the FedEx Cup. Watson is third.

Rory McIlroy is at No. 4, and he didn't hurt himself. McIlroy wasn't at his best, though he made enough birdies and key par saves for a 69 that kept him very much in the hunt.

"You can really shoot yourself out of it," McIlroy said. "Even though I didn't play

great, I kept it together."

Hunter Mahan might have shot himself out of it. Mahan is seeded fifth and opened with a 74. Only one other player in the 29-man field — Geoff Ogilvy, who is just happy to have made it to the Tour Championship — had a worse score.

Mahan, one of three captain's picks for the Ryder Cup, has broken par once in his last nine rounds since winning The Barclays.

Kirk was left off the Ryder Cup team, even though he has two wins this season and had just won a FedEx Cup playoff event the day before U.S. captain Tom Watson announced his three picks. Horschel might be the hottest in golf at the moment. He is prone to go on big streaks like this.

They have only one cup in mind, and they took a big step toward it Thursday.

"This is my sixth week in a row. I haven't played more than three events in a row this year," Horschel said. "But I have no issues with that. Listen, this is the FedEx Cup playoffs. If you can't get yourself in shape and get up for it on a daily basis, they why are you playing this game?"

"It's our playoffs. It's like the World Series or the NBA championships and NFL playoffs.

Chualo says boxing lacks excitement of yesteryear

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — George Chuvalo fought the best boxers of his day. He looks around at today's heavyweights and he's bored.

Chuvalo, a heavyweight contender from Canada who tangled with the likes of Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, points to the Klitschko brothers, who dominate the heavyweight division. He says they're part of the problem.

"They're not exciting at all," he tells The Canadian Press. "I yawn an awful lot when I see one of their fights. They win because they're so darn big and that's their biggest asset."

Vitali Klitschko has retired to be in politics in Ukraine, while Wladimir Klitschko retains his heavyweight title.

"It isn't like watching Rocky Marciano," Chuvalo says. "It isn't like watching Joe Louis, it isn't like watching Mike Tyson, it isn't like watching Muhammad Ali." Chuvalo defines boxing

eras by the great heavyweights. He never won the heavyweight title, but he did go the distance with Ali. He also fought Frazier, George Foreman and Floyd Patterson and held the Canadian heavyweight title from 1959 pretty much until it was time to quit in 1978, with only a few breaks. He had 93 fights as a pro and was never knocked down. Chuvalo turns 77 on Friday. Boxing has defined his life, but he's now been out of the ring longer than he was in it. He says he works out daily and looks as if he could still do damage with those big hands.

"I was a fighter from the age of 10 to 41," he says. Chuvalo was in Winnipeg this week to help promote an Olympic-style match between Canada and Puerto Rico, arranged as a fundraiser for the United Boxing Club.

His prescription for reinvigorating boxing is grooming fighters who can bring



In this May 19, 2005, file photo, George Chuvalo poses in Toronto.

Associated Press

back some excitement. And he focuses on heavyweights.

Right now, the face of boxing is Floyd Mayweather, who has held 10 titles but all in light divisions.

"It gets a little thin after Mayweather," Chuvalo says. "He's pretty much got it all to himself."

Chuvalo understands that these are tough times for his sport, some of the interest siphoned off by mixed-martial arts.

AL Capsules

Royals beat Tigers to re-establish AL Central lead

DETROIT (AP) — James Shields allowed two hits over seven innings in another terrific performance, and the Kansas City Royals edged Detroit 3-0 on Wednesday night to take a one-game lead over the Tigers atop the AL Central. Shields (14-7) gave up a single to Ian Kinsler leading off the first. Then he picked off Kinsler — and retired every other batter he faced until another Detroit single in the seventh. The Tigers put two on that inning, but Shields worked out of the jam.

Kelvin Herrera pitched the eighth and Wade Davis finished for his third save.

Rick Porcello (15-11) pitched well for the Tigers, but Kansas City pushed across two runs in the fourth on RBI singles by Salvador Perez and Lorenzo Cain.

Alcides Escobar added a sacrifice fly in the ninth.

YANKEES 8, RAYS 5

NEW YORK (AP) — Mark Teixeira made up for a botched foul pop in the Rays' four-run first inning

with a go-ahead triple in the fifth, Brian McCann homered and drove in three runs, and the Yankees used their biggest comeback of the season



Kansas City Royals starting pitcher James Shields throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers in Detroit, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014.

Associated Press

to beat Tampa Bay.

The Yankees entered 5 1/2 games out of a playoff spot with 20 remaining, and they did not get off to a good start.

Teixeira overran lead-off batter Ben Zobrist's

foul ball behind first base for no play. Zobrist then singled for his 1,000th career hit. Five of the next six Rays reached before Chris Capuano was lifted in the

shortest start of his career. By the end of the 30-minute top of the first, New York trailed 4-0.

McCann homered in the bottom half to end Jake Odorizzi's scoreless streak at 14 1-3 innings.

BLUE JAYS 11, CUBS 1
TORONTO (AP) — Drew Hutchison matched his career-high with 10 strikeouts in 6 1-3 innings, Dioner Navarro had two hits and two RBIs, and the Blue Jays completed a three-game sweep with a win over the Cubs.

Hutchison (10-11) allowed one run and four hits in his second career 10-strikeout game — both this season. He also did it against Milwaukee on July 1.

Jorge Soler's seventh-inning homer provided the only run for the Cubs, who matched a season-worst with their sixth straight loss. At 64-82, they are ensured of a fifth straight losing season. It is the first time they have had five consecutive seasons below .500 since six straight from 1978-83.

Chicago has been outscored 48-10 during its losing streak.

Jose Bautista went 0 for 2 with two walks, snapping his hitting streak at 13 games, but the Blue Jays improved to 7-2 in Septem-

ber.

ORIOLES 10, RED SOX 6

BOSTON (AP) — Wei-Yin Chen pitched perfect ball into the sixth inning, Adam Jones helped provide an early cushion and the Orioles beat the Red Sox for a three-game sweep.

The Orioles took an 8-0 lead in the fifth and maintained their double-digit lead atop the AL East.

Caleb Joseph homered and drove in three runs and Ryan Flaherty got a career-high four hits as Baltimore won for the 11th time in 14 games.

Chen (15-4) retired the first 16 batters before Dan Butler doubled off the Green Monster for his first major league hit. Chen gave up one run and three hits in seven innings, striking out four without a walk.

Boston scored five runs in the ninth. Darren O'Day got the last out with two runners on for his third save. Brandon Workman (1-9) lost his ninth straight decision since winning at Baltimore on June 10. □

NL Capsules

Simon uses arm, bat to lift Reds over Cardinals

CINCINNATI (AP) — Alfredo Simon shook off a rough start but lasted seven innings and drove in the go-ahead run with the second of his two doubles as the Reds rallied for a win over the Cardinals.

Ryan Ludwick hit a solo home run to help the Reds win back-to-back games for the first time since Aug. 27-28 against the Chicago Cubs. The Central Division-leading Cardinals hadn't sustained consecutive defeats since a four-game losing streak from Aug. 26-30.

Simon (14-10) allowed five hits and two runs with three walks and five strikeouts for his second win in eight decisions over 11 starts since the All-Star break.

Sam LeCure and Ryan

Dennick pitched the eighth, and Aroldis Chapman worked a perfect ninth for his 32nd save.

Terry Lyons (0-4) took the loss after Cardinals starter John Lackey was ejected in the third inning for arguing balls and strikes.

BRAVES 6, NATIONALS 2

WASHINGTON (AP) — Aaron Harang outdueled Stephen Strasburg, Justin Upton drove in three runs and the Atlanta Braves avoided a series sweep in Washington with a win over the Nationals.

The Braves snapped a three-game losing streak as Harang (11-10) held the NL East leaders to one unearned run over seven innings. Upton's RBI single in the sixth broke a 1-all tie, and he added a two-run double off reliever Ryan

Mattheus during a three-run seventh.

Strasburg (11-11) allowed three runs and seven hits in six innings. Bryce Harper homered for Washington, which had won three straight.

B.J. Upton homered for the wild card-contending Braves. Washington leads Atlanta by eight games in the division.

PIRATES 6, PHILLIES 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Andrew McCutchen hit the first inside-the-park home run of his career and the Pittsburgh Pirates protected their lead in the NL wild-card race, beating Philadelphia.

Pittsburgh has won six of seven.

Pittsburgh trailed 3-2 in the fifth inning when McCutchen hit a ball off



Cincinnati Reds pitcher Alfredo Simon hits an RBI double in the fourth inning of their baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals in Cincinnati, Wednesday Sept. 10, 2014.

Associated Press

the wall in straightaway center field. The ball ricocheted toward the alley in right-center, and Mc-

Cutchen scored standing up. Russell Martin homered into the center-field seats later in the inning. □

Making travel quick, safe for cars, bikes, walkers

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Cell-phones that warn drivers when people are crossing in front of them. Bicycles and cars that communicate with traffic lights. Sensors in cars that quickly alert other drivers to black ice, potholes or other hazards. A low-priced camera system that brings high-tech automatic braking to the masses. These life- or time-saving technologies are being shown off this week at the Intelligent Transport Systems World Congress in Detroit. Here are five smart things coming to your car in just a few years:

WALKING SAFELY: Pedestrians sometimes wander into traffic. Imagine if their cellphones could alert oncoming drivers. In a system being tested by auto parts supplier Denso, computer software in the car would receive the phone signal, analyze speed and direction, and instantly determine if the pedestrian will cross the car's path. That cuts down on false warnings. "It even can go as far as applying the brakes for you," said

Doua Vang, a Denso engineering manager. The technology is five or more years away. Cars need receivers and radio frequencies need to be set aside by the government. Sending out a constant signal will quickly drain a cellphone battery. And engineers are working on distinguishing between a phone in a pedestrian's pocket from one held by a passenger inside another car, Vang said. The hope is fewer pedestrian deaths. In 2012, the last year for which data is available, 4,473 pedestrians died in traffic crashes, the highest number in five years. **PREVENTING PILE-UPS:** Black ice that forms suddenly is often blamed for multi-vehicle pileups worldwide, because drivers can't stop in time. Now, state transportation officials in Nevada, Minnesota and Michigan are testing technology that can warn people when the first car hits ice. "We're using it now," said Steve Cook, field services engineer for the Michigan Department of Transportation, who wouldn't guess how long it will take

to get all cars on the system. Sensors on the vehicles measure road surface temperature and other weather data. They also check the pavement for potholes. The cars relay the information, as

AUTOMATIC BRAKING FOR ALL: We've all seen television commercials advertising fancy radar systems that automatically brake a car to avoid a crash and save an inattentive driver. The systems

two in the front and two in the back, can sense children, other cars and even deer, and automatically brake the car, said Ichiji Yamada, deputy general manager of chassis systems. Engineers wouldn't reveal the price, but said Aisin is working with Toyota to put the system on mass-market cars around 2020. The cost is lower because of advancements in camera technologies. **HEY TRAFFIC LIGHT! I'M HERE!** Bicycle riders are often ignored by systems designed to change a traffic light when a car arrives. A Raleigh, North Carolina, company called Kimley-Horn has come up with a smartphone app that gets cyclists noticed. It uses the phone's GPS and signals a central computer via the Internet to turn the light green. The system will be tested this fall with 100 cyclists in Austin, Texas. It could go citywide by 2016, said Kimley-Horn's Doug Gettman. Similar transmitters could be installed on all vehicles, so the computer can detect them and manage traffic lights, keeping them green for large blocks of vehicles, Gettman said.

STOPPING HOV LANE CHEATS: Japanese technology company NEC wants to stop single riders from cheating in high occupancy vehicle lanes reserved for cars with two or more people. NEC has a system of cameras and infrared sensors that records the number of people in a car and the license number. Isamu Suzuki, senior manager of business development, says enforcement is low because a limited number of humans monitor the lanes. The system can immediately notify police or store information so traffic tickets can be sent later. Due to privacy concerns, it doesn't store facial images. State governments could begin using the system late this year or early next year, hopefully speeding up travel for those who use the lanes properly. □



In a Monday, Sept. 8, 2014 image from video, an indicator on a digital display in a car detects a pedestrian walking nearby during a demonstration hosted by Denso at the Intelligent Transportation Society's World Congress in Detroit. The auto parts supplier is working on technology that uses smartphones to signal drivers if someone is walking into their path.

Associated Press

well as data on location and windshield wiper, antilock brake and traction control use, to a central computer that sends messages telling other drivers to slow down.

are typically expensive options, around \$3,000, on high-end luxury cars. But auto parts maker Aisin aims to bring the technology to mainstream cars. The system's cameras,

Yahoo describes surveillance fight

PETE YOST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Yahoo said Thursday the government threatened to fine the company \$250,000 a day if it did not comply with demands to go along with an expansion of U.S. surveillance by surrendering online information, a step the company regarded as unconstitutional. The outlines of Yahoo's secret and ultimately unsuccessful court fight against government surveillance emerged when a federal judge ordered the unsealing of some material about Yahoo's court challenge. In a statement, Yahoo said the government amended a law to demand user information from online services, prompting a challenge in 2007. Former National Security Agency contrac-

tor Edward Snowden disclosed the program last year.

"Our challenge, and a later appeal in the case, did not succeed," Yahoo general counsel Ron Bell said in a statement.

The new material about the case, first reported by The Washington Post, underscores "how we had to fight every step of the way to challenge the U.S. government's surveillance efforts," Bell added. "At one point, the U.S. government threatened the imposition of \$250,000 in fines per day if we refused to comply." Bell said the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court upheld the predecessor to Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act. Section 702 refers to the program called PRISM, which gave the government access to



This Oct. 17, 2012, photo, shows a sign in front of Yahoo! headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif.

Associated Press

online communications by users of Yahoo.

The company said it is committed to protecting users' data and that it will continue to contest requests and laws that it considers unlawful, unclear or overly broad.

"We consider this an important win for transparency, and hope that these records help promote informed discussion about the relationship between privacy, due process and intelligence gathering," said Bell. □

Stocks end mixed; Health care slumps

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A sluggish September continued for U.S. stocks as investors assessed the outlook for interest rates, the latest sanctions against Russia and volatile energy prices. Stocks ended the day mixed after gains for dividend-rich utilities stocks largely offset a slump in health care companies. Lululemon, the high-end yoga apparel maker, surged after report-

er, led by a big decline for energy stocks as the price of oil extended its declines from a day earlier. Oil futures turned higher throughout the morning as traders judged that new sanctions against Russia over its involvement in Ukraine might crimp supplies. As oil prices rebounded, so did energy stocks.

The price of oil rose \$1.16 to close at \$92.83 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after dropping

"Interest rates have not been a headwind (for stocks) for some time now," said Jim Russell, a regional investment director at US-Bank. "We are entering into a period now where they will have to be considered again."

In currency trading, the dollar continued its ascent against the Japanese yen. The U.S. currency is at its highest level in six years against the yen. On Thursday one dollar bought



Trader Joseph Lawler, and specialist John O'hara, foreground left and right, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A sluggish September continued for U.S. stocks as investors assessed the outlook for interest rates, the latest sanctions against Russia and volatile energy prices. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ing earnings that surpassed analyst's forecasts.

The stock market has had a slow start to the month, and the Standard & Poor's is on track to end the week with a loss for the first time in six weeks. Investors are struggling to find an impetus to push prices higher with the market close to all-time highs.

"The market might just be pausing here to digest and see what we have to propel it one way or the other," said Jeff Morris, Head of U.S. Equities at Standard Life Investments.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 1.76 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,997.45. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 19.71 points, or 0.1 percent, to 17,049. The Nasdaq composite rose 5.28 points, or 0.1 percent, to 4,591.81.

Stocks started the day low-

close to \$90 a barrel in early trading.

The stock market gains were led by utilities, which climbed 0.9 percent.

Health care stocks fell the most, declining 0.3 percent. The industry has been the best performing sector this year, climbing 15.5 percent, compared to a gain of 8.1 percent for the broader index.

The Federal Reserve is never far from investors' minds, and many are already looking forward to next week's meeting of policy makers. The Fed is currently winding down its economic stimulus measures, and investors will be expecting an update on the economy and more insight into when the central bank might begin raising interest rates. The Fed concludes its latest two-day policy meeting next Wednesday.

107.30 yen. The dollar fell to \$1.292 against the euro.

Government bond prices were little changed. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which rises when prices fall, rose to 2.55 percent from 2.54 percent on Wednesday.

The price of gold fell \$6.30 to \$1,239 an ounce, silver fell 33 cents to \$18.60 an ounce and copper fell two cents to \$3.09 a pound.

In other energy trading, Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils used by many U.S. refineries, rose 4 cents to close at \$98.08 on the ICE Futures exchange in London. Wholesale gasoline 0.3 cent to close at \$2.524 a gallon, and natural gas fell 13.1 cents to close at \$3.823 per 1,000 cubic feet after the Energy Department reported a larger-than-expected increase in natural gas inventories. □

Experts claim shoppers will shrug off Home Depot hack

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Home Depot's data breach could wind up being among the largest ever for a retailer, but that may not matter to its millions of customers.

The nation's largest home-improvement chain on Monday confirmed a theft that could have gone back as far as April and affected customers who used credit and debit cards at nearly 2,200 of its U.S. and Canadian stores. While the scope of the hack is not yet known, there's speculation that it could be the biggest yet.

Home Depot joins a growing list of retailers that have had their data stolen. Perhaps the most high-profile of those previous hacks came was at Target, which suffered profit and sales declines after shoppers fled following a breach that compromised 40 million debit and credit card accounts.

Industry watchers are betting Home Depot will fare better with its customers.

"It's simply not a big issue with consumers," said Craig Johnson, president of retail consultancy Customer Growth Partners, noting that shoppers seem to be almost immune to the breaches now. "Everybody knows that this is not people's first rodeo."

Take Johnna Horn. She stopped shopping at Target for two months after its breach was disclosed. Yet when she heard the news about Home Depot, she wasn't alarmed. "With Target, it was more shocking," said Horn, who lives in Wentzville, Missouri. "With Home Depot, it's like here we go again."

To be sure, analysts say it's too early to estimate the impact the breach will have on Home Depot's business because there are many details that are unknown. But they say there are a few reasons Home Depot's breach may not matter to shoppers:

TIMING

In addition to the fact that Home Depot's breach follows a thefts at other retailers, the chain may benefit from timing in another way.

Target Corp. disclosed its breach a week before Christmas, the final critical stretch of the two-month holiday season, the busiest shopping period of the year for retailers like Target.

But Home Depot's disclosure came in September, months after the spring season, which is the busiest time of year for home-improvement chains.

"September is not a peak season for Home Depot, while Christmas at Target is critical," said Greg Melich, a retail analyst at International Strategy & Investment Group LLC.

CUSTOMERS

Home Depot's customers are more likely to react differently to the breach because of who they are.

About 37 percent of Home Depot's sales come from professional and contractor services — or commercial customers, Melich estimates. Analysts say that group is loyal to Home Depot, and they often shop there several times a week.

By contrast, Target caters to the middle-income customers, who tend to shop around for the best prices. By nature, they tend to be less loyal to one store.

GROWING BUSINESS

Unlike Target, Home Depot's business was solid before the breach.

Home Depot has been benefiting from a turnaround in the housing market that has enticed shoppers to spend more on their homes. Its revenue for the six-month period that ended last month was up 4.4 percent. Meanwhile, profit rose 13.5 percent, and the company raised its annual profit forecast. □

At Air France-KLM;

Restructuring puts new focus on its low-cost airline

NICOLA CLARK

© 2014 New York Times

PARIS - After almost three years of belt-tightening, Air France-KLM embarked on a new phase of transformation on Thursday, announcing an ambitious plan to shift a large part of its European operations to a low-cost subsidiary and raise its game against fast-growing Persian Gulf rivals. The move, which includes

investments up to 1 billion euros (about \$1.3 billion) over the next five years, aims to build the unprofitable unit Transavia into one of Europe's largest budget carriers to better compete with nimbler competitors like Ryanair and EasyJet. But the shift also threatens to aggravate tensions with the group's French pilots' unions, which oppose moving existing services

to Transavia, where crew members are paid less. Air France pilots have threatened widespread strikes next week in protest. "The ambitious initiatives we are launching today will go hand in hand with redoubled efforts to reduce costs and restructure activities which remain loss-making," Alexandre de Juniac, the group's chief executive, said in a

statement.

Air France-KLM, Europe's third-largest carrier by number of passengers, after Ryanair and Lufthansa, will double the size of Transavia's fleet to more than 100 planes by 2017, from around 50 currently, with a target of carrying 20 million passengers a year. The group expects to hire up to 250 pilots by 2019, with about a third based in

France, a third in the Netherlands, and the rest in other European countries.

The strategic shift by Air France-KLM comes as most of the region's full-service airlines are scrambling to reduce operating costs while fighting a two-front battle against budget carriers on European routes and fast-growing Middle Eastern rivals on long-distance services. □

Struggling RadioShack sees filing for bankruptcy near

WILLIAM ALDEN

© 2014 New York Times

RadioShack, the struggling electronics retailer that is quickly running out of cash, said Thursday it might have to file for bankruptcy protection, or even liquidate, if it cannot arrange a lifeline.

In a stark disclosure of its deteriorating financial situation, RadioShack said in a regulatory filing that, absent an external solution, it would be unable to finance its operations "beyond the very near term," raising doubts about its future in business.

RadioShack said it was in talks with third parties and its financial stakeholders about a number of possible options, including a sale, a significant new investment or a restructuring. The company said some form of recapitalization "may be our most likely course of action," but that it could not guarantee such a deal. Should the company fail to find a solution, RadioShack

may be forced to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, it said. In a still more drastic step, Ra-

dioShack began to look increasingly obsolete as the digital revolution passed it by, and it has re-

ability to close stores has been limited by its agreement with its lenders.

RadioShack's stock price,

The disclosure Thursday came as RadioShack reported financial results for its second quarter, which ended Aug. 2. The company said its net revenue fell 22 percent, to \$673.8 million, from the period a year earlier, while its losses widened to \$137.4 million from \$52.2 million.

The company said it had \$30.5 million of cash as of Aug. 2, compared with \$179.8 million at the end of last year. The available borrowing in its credit facility stood at \$152 million as of Aug. 2, while the company's debt totaled \$656.9 million.

For decades, RadioShack's stores supplied mainstream consumers and gadget geeks alike with all manner of electronics, as well as the spare parts to fix or customize them. But major shifts in technology and retailing - including fierce competition in the wireless business and the move toward online shopping - have eroded its sales. □



A RadioShack store on W. 181st Street in New York. RadioShack, the struggling electronics retailer that is quickly running out of cash, said on Thursday that it may have to file for bankruptcy if it cannot arrange a lifeline.
(Librado Romero/The New York Times)

dioShack added, it could be forced to liquidate. Once an important player in the technology world,

ported losses quarter after quarter. It has undertaken a restructuring effort for the last 18 months, though its

as low as 55 cents in the summer, rose 9.6 percent Thursday, to a \$1.02 a share.

Google acquires online polling company Polar

CONOR DOUGHERTY

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In a move that could shore up the dire shortage of opinions on the Internet, Google has acquired Polar, an online poll company. The deal was announced on Polar's website and through Google's social network, Google Plus.

To the frustration of analysts and journalists, Google announces lots of small acquisitions on Google Plus,

instead of, say, a corporate website or news wire service. But the announcement there of Thursday's deal actually makes sense, since Polar - whose polls ask such questions as "Win World Series? S.F. Giants/L.A. Dodgers" - will be part of Google Plus. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

In Silicon Valley parlance, the deal is an "acqui-hire," meaning Google was most interested in employing

Luke Wroblewski, Polar's founder, and his team of engineers and designers. Wroblewski is an evangelist of mobile design. Three years ago, he published a book called "Mobile First," which "makes the case for why websites and applications should increasingly be designed for mobile first" and outlines ways for Web design teams to move from designing apps for desktops and laptops to designing them for mobile

phones.

"I'm thrilled to welcome Luke Wroblewski and the talented Polar team to Google! They'll be joining our team and helping us make G+ even more awesome," Dave Besbris, Google's vice president of engineering for Google Plus, said on his own Google Plus page.

Google Plus has struggled to gain traction with users, at least in comparison to Facebook. But the network

still has immense value to Google because it helps the company learn more about its users, which, in turn, helps the Internet giant to sell more ads and push more of its services. Still, despite frequent jokes about Google Plus being an online ghost town, loyal users say parts of it are thriving.

Polar has done polls for several media companies including HBO, TechCrunch and USA Today. □

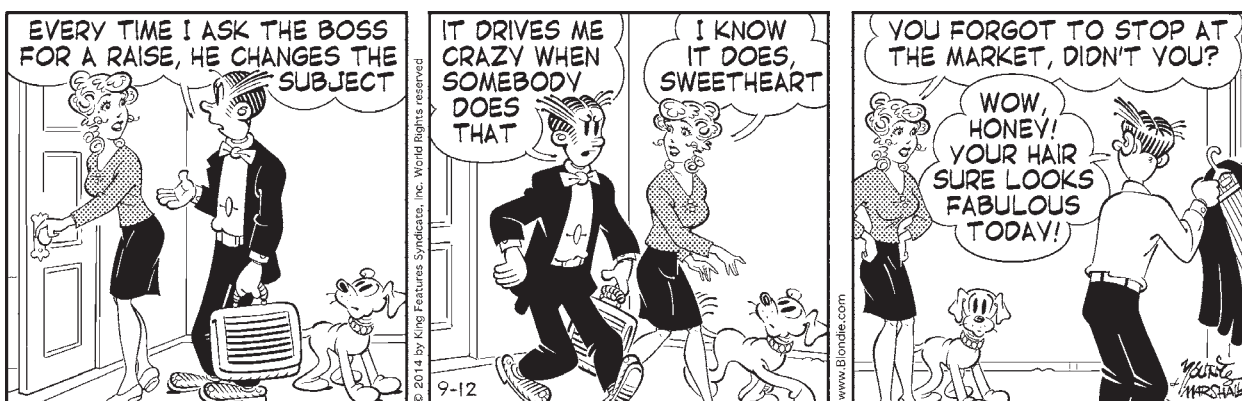
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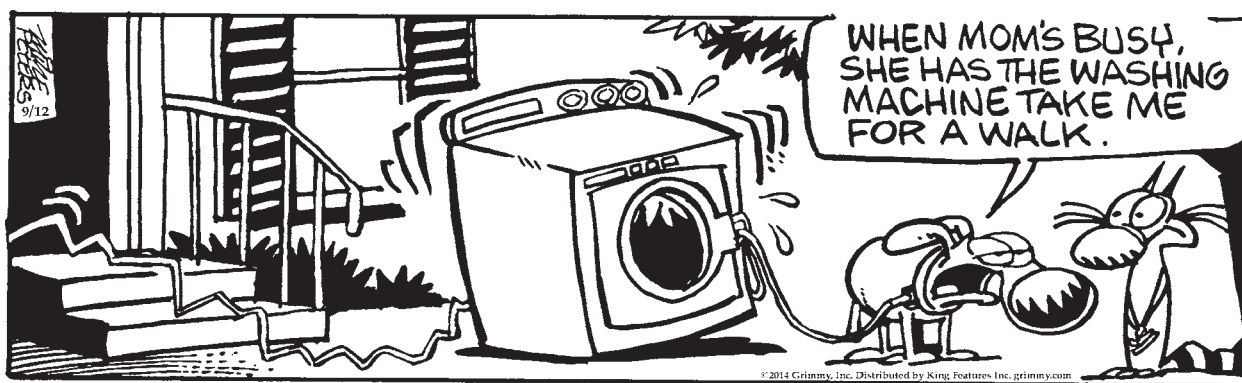
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Blondie



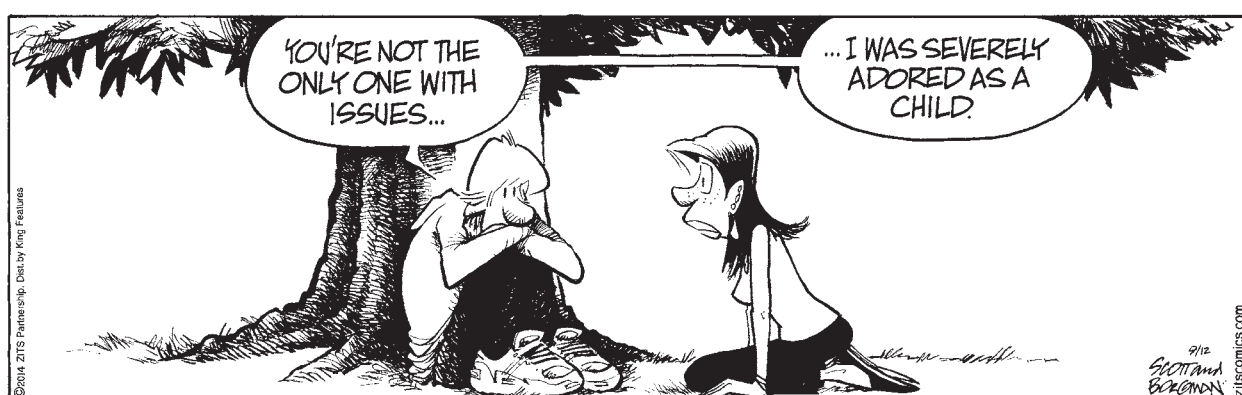
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

				8	1	2		
		3	7					
	2							5
	8		9		3			4
4								3
9			5		8		2	
6							8	
				2	1			
		9	4	5				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/12

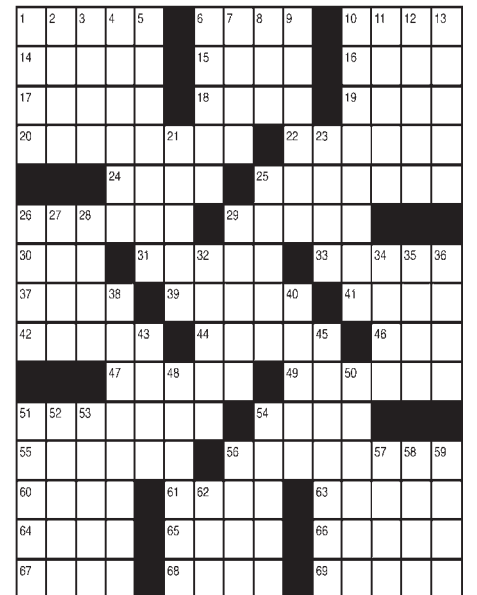
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	1	3	5	6	2	9	8	4
8	9	2	7	4	1	3	5	6
4	6	5	8	3	9	2	7	1
6	2	1	3	5	4	8	9	7
5	3	7	9	8	6	4	1	2
9	8	4	2	1	7	5	6	3
3	4	9	1	7	8	6	2	5
1	5	8	6	2	3	7	4	9
2	7	6	4	9	5	1	3	8

ACROSS

- Less risky
- Con game
- on; incite
- Licorice-flavored herb
- Despair's opposite
- Give a traffic ticket to
- Explorer _ de León
- Had debts
- Despise
- Tennis shoes
- Pressed clothing
- Two cups
- Clothes makers
- Go skyward
- Cuddly-looking Chinese bear
- Pigeon's sound
- Heed one's alarm clock
- Standing straight
- Grave
- _ from; talk out of
- Indira's robe
- Derisive smile
- Long thin piece of leather
- Trotted
- Knox & Worth
- Singer Bing
- Burdensome
- Track-and-field event
- Tax
- With eyes _; alert
- Bring on board
- Strong criticism
- Money, slangily
- Tied, as a score
- Huron or Erie
- Rather fat
- Late actor Foxx
- Peepers
- Brusque
- DOWN
- Gullible fools
- Shortly
- Four and five
- Finished
- "Ticket to _"; Beatles song
- Narrow candle
- Performs
- In just a while
- _ back; return
- Plays miniature golf
- Exams
- All _; listening
- Grumpy one
- Very small
- Become a buddy to
- Ran fast
- Housetop
- Bump, as a scheduled telecast
- Frially strip
- Actor Peter _
- Each _; one another
- Unsuspecting
- Goofed
- Farrell & Ditka
- _ up; stop sleeping
- Rain heavily
- Lawn trees
- Back of the neck
- _ down; reclined



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/12/14

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

CURE	MANIA	SPIT
OPEN	ALERT	TORO
MOLD	LOCKER	ROOM
ENE	OINK	EARN
	NUDGE	FBI
RATSON	PLUNGE	
IDLER	FLOAT	ERA
GOES	ALIEN	LONG
SRS	SWEET	DOGIE
ESCHEW	PREARED	
HAS	PANDA	
EDGAR	PACT	PRO
REALESTATE	SHIN	
RAGE	EAGER	PILE
SLAT	TRESS	ACES

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9/12/14

Venezuela

Continued from page 11

One reason for the low-key approach is to avoid a repeat of the very public dogfight that ensued the last time Venezuela sought one of the 10 non-permanent seats in the U.N.'s most-powerful body.

In 2006, Chavez toured the world collecting promises of votes only to see support erode at the last minute after he bashed the United States at the General Assembly, calling President George W. Bush the "devil." The U.S. then gathered support behind Guatemala. After 47 rounds of deadlocked balloting — the third longest vote for a Security Council seat — both withdrew, clearing the way for a compromise candidate, Panama, which easily won.

Following that display of disunity, regional governments agreed in private to alternate representation in a certain order. Under those procedures, it's now Venezuela's turn.

"But this isn't a straitjacket. The only voting rules that count are the ones outlined in the U.N.'s charter," said Milos Alcalay, a former Venezuelan ambassador to the U.N. who resigned in 2004 to protest what he said was the Chavez government's violation of democratic principles.

No other country has mounted a challenge, however, and the caucus representing the 33 nations last month sent to the General Assembly's president its nomination of Venezuela as the sole candidate to occupy the region's rotating seat for a two-year term beginning in January. The action reflects a decade-long shift in the region away from the United States. Conservative leaders from Peru to El Salvador that in 2006 had no fear of picking a fight with Chavez have since been voted out of office. Even nations that differ with Venezuela's policies, such as Chile and Colombia, want to avoid a confrontation that harkens back to the polarized politics of the Cold War, when meddling by Washington

was frequent.

If any last-minute opposition were to emerge, it likely would come from the United States, which in July imposed a travel ban on 24 high-ranking Venezuelan officials it accuses of using excessive force and arbitrarily jailing anti-government protesters. But Mark Weisbrot, co-director of the Washington-based Center for Economic and Policy Research, said Washington's ability to shape the voting is minimal compared to 2006. While Venezuela's preference for heated rhetoric may stand out, Maduro's concern for national sovereignty is in step with other regional leaders, he said, so having Venezuela on the Security Council could serve as a counterweight to the U.S. when debating the use of force.

"Venezuela isn't subject to pressure from the U.S. and its allies and today, when the U.S. is the most war-making country in the world, that's very important," he said.

Venezuela wouldn't have veto power, so it could not affect the outcome of the 15-member council's resolutions.

Still, Maduro's close ties with many countries under U.N. or U.S. sanctions means the potential for clashes with other members is real. Veto-wielding Russia would gain an ally in its frequent battles with the West.

Venezuela's government is one of the world's top buyers of Russian weaponry and was one of just 10 countries in the General Assembly to vote against a resolution criticizing Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula.

Venezuela is also an ally of Iran — the United States in 2011 imposed sanctions on Venezuela's state-run oil company for trading with the Islamic Republic — and Maduro also has been a steadfast supporter of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Last year, Venezuela was the only country of 47 to vote against extending a U.N. Human Rights Council investigation into abuses committed during that country's civil war.

Classifieds

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CRUISESHIP

September 15
Monarch



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pa Prohimo
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Foundation
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Scientists say the ozone layer is recovering

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Earth's protective ozone layer is beginning to recover, largely because of the phase-out since the 1980s of certain chemicals used in refrigerants and aerosol cans, a U.N. scientific panel

"It's a victory for diplomacy and for science and for the fact that we were able to work together," said chemist Mario Molina. In 1974, Molina and F. Sherwood Rowland wrote a scientific study forecasting the ozone depletion problem. They won the 1995

the ozone layer, Newman said. The report said rising levels of carbon dioxide and other gases cool the upper stratosphere, and the cooler air increases the amount of ozone. And in another worrisome trend, the chemicals that replaced CFCs contribute to global warming and are on the rise, said MIT atmospheric scientist Susan Solomon. At the moment, they don't make much of a dent, but they are expected to increase dramatically by 2050 and make "a big contribution" to global warming. The ozone layer is still far from healed. The long-lasting, ozone-eating chemi-

cals still lingering in the atmosphere create a yearly fall ozone hole above the extreme Southern Hemisphere, and the hole hasn't closed up. Also, the ozone layer is still about 6 percent thinner than in 1980, by Newman's calculations. Ozone levels are "on the upswing, but it's not there yet," he said. Achim Steiner, executive director of the U.N. Environment Program, said there are encouraging signs that the ozone layer "is on track to recovery by the middle of this century." Steiner called the effort to get rid of ozone-destroying substances "one of the great success stories of in-

ternational collective action in addressing a global environmental change phenomenon." "More than 98 percent of the ozone-depleting substances agreed over time have actually been phased out," he said. If not for such efforts, Steiner said, "we would be seeing a very substantial global ozone depletion today." Paul Wapner, a professor of global environmental politics at American University, said the findings are "good news in an often dark landscape" and send a message of hope to world leaders meeting later this month in New York for a U.N. climate summit. □



This undated handout photo provided by Centro Mario Molina shows Mario Molina in Mexico City. Earth protective but fragile ozone layer is finally starting to rebound, says a United Nations panel of scientists. Associated Press

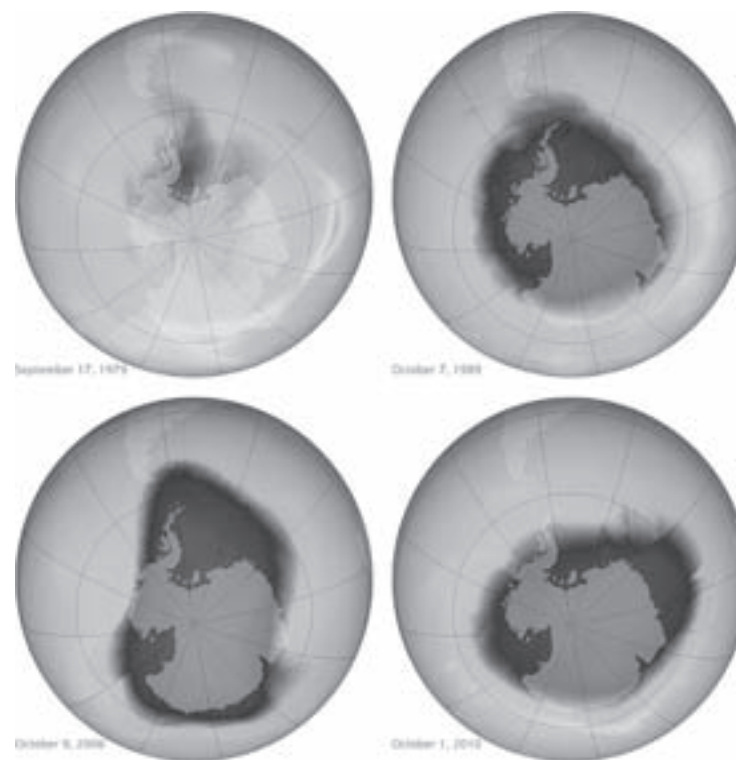
el reported Wednesday in a rare piece of good news about the health of the planet. Scientists said the development demonstrates that when the world comes together, it can counteract a brewing ecological crisis. For the first time in 35 years, scientists were able to confirm a statistically significant and sustained increase in stratospheric ozone, which shields the planet from solar radiation that causes skin cancer, crop damage and other problems. From 2000 to 2013, ozone levels climbed 4 percent in the key mid-northern latitudes at about 30 miles up, said NASA scientist Paul A. Newman. He co-chaired the every-four-years ozone assessment by 300 scientists, released at the United Nations.

Nobel Prize in chemistry for their work. The ozone layer had been thinning since the late 1970s. Man-made chlorofluorocarbons, called CFCs, released chlorine and bromine, which destroyed ozone molecules high in the air. After scientists raised the alarm, countries around the world agreed to a treaty in 1987 that phased out CFCs. Levels of those chemicals between 30 and 50 miles up are decreasing. The United Nations calculated in an earlier report that without the pact, by 2030 there would have been an extra 2 million skin cancer cases a year around the world. Paradoxically, heat-trapping greenhouse gases — considered the major cause of global warming — are also helping to rebuild

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A strong solar flare is blasting its way to Earth, but the worst of its power looks like it will barely skim above the planet and not cause many problems. It has been several years since Earth has had a solar storm of this size coming from sunspots smack in the middle of the sun, said Tom Berger, director of the Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, Colorado. The flare on the sun barely hits the "extreme" on forecasters' scale, but with its worst effects missing Earth it is only looking "potentially strong" at most when it arrives at Earth as a solar storm, he said. New calculations from satellite data show that the worst of the energetic particles streaming from the sun likely will go north or above Earth this time, Berger said late Wednesday. So while the power grid may see fluctuations because the storm will cause changes in Earth's magnetic field, it won't knock power systems off line, Berger said. It may cause slight disturbances in satellites and radio transmissions but nothing major.

Scientists: Strong solar storm heading to Earth



This image provided by NASA, shows an extreme ultra-violet wavelength image of solar flare captured about 1:45 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014.

Associated Press

"We're not scared of this one," Berger said. The storm is moving medium fast, about 2.5 million mph (4.02 million kph), meaning the soonest it could arrive is early Friday. But it could be later, Berger said. Solar storms occur often, especially during peaks in the solar cycle, and don't directly harm people. "There's been a giant magnetic explosion on the sun," Berger said.

"Because it's pointed right at us, we'll at least catch some of the cloud" of highly energized and magnetized plasma that can disrupt Earth's magnetic sphere, which sometimes leads to temporary power grid problems. On the plus side, sun flares expand the colorful northern lights so people farther south can see them. But don't expect them too far south, Berger said. □



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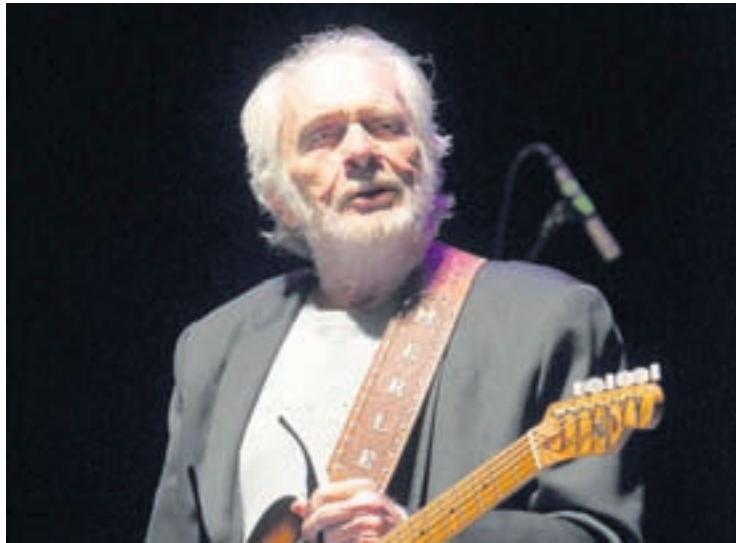
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Country singer Merle Haggard: still on the road

KRISTIN M. HALL
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Even Merle Haggard gets nervous about stepping onto a stage when the audience is filled with songwriters, record label executives and fellow artists. "Well, it's glorious but it's also tough because all the pressure is on you," Haggard said after recently playing two sold-out nights at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee. "You've got all those people out there that call you a legend and an icon and all that stuff. You kinda gotta prove it." But judging from the cheering and ovations, Haggard — who helped create the twangy electrified Bakersfield Sound in country music — still knows how to impress a crowd. At 77, he tours the coun-



In this May 3, 2014 file photo, Merle Haggard performs in concert at Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City, N.J. At 77, he still tours around the country about two weeks each month and recently bought a new tour bus, a sign that he's not interested in retirement from the road.

try about two weeks each month and recently bought a new tour bus, a sign that he's not interested in retirement from the road. His band, the Strangers, now includes his wife, Theresa, and 21-year-old son Ben, as well as band leader Norman Hamlet, who has been with Haggard since the 1960s. "It's real tempting to let it all go, but it's taken many years to get to where I am

at," Haggard said. "To divorce myself of it earlier than I have to is really not something I want to do." Haggard had lung surgery after a cancer diagnosis in 2008, and he said an early, but incorrect, diagnosis had him thinking he had only a short time to live. "And then they told me, 'No, we're wrong. It's only just a little benign condition that we can get rid of,'" Haggard said. "It was sort of a disappointment. I was ready to go." But Haggard said he hasn't had any recurring symptoms, so he's not dwelling

on past health problems. Born outside of Bakersfield, California, in 1937, Haggard, the son of Oklahoma migrants, was raised in a converted railway boxcar, the only home his family could afford. Famous for his prison stint in San Quentin, Haggard said music was his only opportunity out of poverty. "My decisions have been easy," he said. "It was either back in the cotton patch or go to work in the oil fields. ... They didn't compare with music. I was able to make more money in a beer joint when I first started than I was digging ditches." □

Elisabeth Moss to star in 'The Heidi Chronicles'



Actress Elisabeth Moss attends the Gotham Magazine Fall Fashion Issue celebration at Tender Restaurant at the Sanctuary Hotel on Monday, Sept. 8, 2014, in New York.

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Elisabeth Moss will play the insecure heroine of "The Heidi Chronicles" in a Broadway revival slated for February. Producers said Thursday that the "Mad Men" star will play the lead in the portrait of a woman who takes a 20-year journey beginning in the late 1960s and changes her attitudes about herself, men and other women. The play will also star Emmy Award-nominee Jason Biggs of "Orange Is The New Black" and "American Pie" fame, Tony Award-nominee Bryce Pinkham from "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" and will feature Tracee Chimo, late of the play "Bad Jews." Tony Award-winner Pam MacKinnon will direct. The creative team will include scenic design by John Lee

Beatty and costume design by Jessica Pabst. Exact dates and the theater where it will play will be announced later. Wasserstein, died of lymphoma at the age of 55 in 2006, found her greatest popular success with "The Heidi Chronicles," which won the best-play Tony Award starring Joan Allen as well as the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1989. Wasserstein's writing was known for its sharp, often comedic look about what women had to do to succeed in a world dominated by men. Some of her other plays include "The Sisters Rosensweig" and "Isn't It Romantic." The revival will be produced by Jeffrey Richards, Jerry Frankel, Susan Gallin, Mary Lu Roffe, Sally Horchow, Rebecca Gold, Wally Hays, Jam Theatricals, Gabrielle Palitz, Jessica Genick and Will Trice. □

Jaws actor from Bond films Richard Kiel dies at 74

SCOTT SMITH
DERRIK J. LANG
Associated Press

FRESNO, California (AP) — Richard Kiel, the towering actor best known for portraying steel-toothed villain Jaws in a pair of James Bond films, has died. He was 74. Kelley Sanchez, director of communications at Saint Agnes Medical Center, confirmed Wednesday that Kiel was a patient at the hospital and died. Kiel's agent, Steven Stevens, also confirmed his death. Both declined to provide further details. The 7-foot-2-inch (2.13 meter, 5-centimeter) performer famously played the cable-chomping henchman who tussled with Roger Moore's Bond in 1977's "The Spy Who Loved Me" and 1979's "Moonraker." Bond quipped of the silent baddie: "His name's Jaws. He kills people." Despite appearing in several other films and TV shows, such as "The Man from U.North Carolina L.E." and "The Longest Yard," the role of Jaws was an iconic one Kiel could never



In this May 31, 2000 photo, Richard Kiel, the actor who is known for his roll as Jaws in the James Bond films in the 80's, is photographed in Coarsegold, Calif.

escape. "To this day, I go out in sunglasses and a hat because people will shout 'Hey, Jaws!' at me from across the street," he told the Daily Mail earlier this year. "The only way I can explain it is that he's like the Road Runner, which Coyote keeps trying to blow up, but he keeps going." Kiel's other memorable roles included bullying golf spectator Mr. Larson in "Happy Gilmore," lethal Dr. Loveless's assistant Voltaire

in "The Wild, Wild West" and extraterrestrial Kanamit in "The Twilight Zone." He also reprised the character of Jaws for several James Bond video games and voiced the thug Vlad in the animated Disney film "Tangled." Born in Detroit, Kiel began appearing in TV shows and films in the 1960s, debuting in an episode of the Western series "Laramie." He published an autobiography in 2002 titled "Making It Big in the Movies." □

Networks say they're cutting back on Rice video

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — At least six television networks said Thursday they plan to stop or minimize airings of video showing Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice striking his then-fiancee and knocking her unconscious, footage that has called into question how the NFL disciplines players involved in domestic violence.

The move comes after the video from a casino elevator showing Janay Palmer crumbling to the floor after a punch has already been seen many times on TV since TMZ released it Monday. The news value of the video also is decreasing over time.

ESPN, CNN, ABC, NBC, Fox News Channel and Fox Sports all said Thursday they would no longer show the video unless there are compelling news reasons to bring it back.

"The video has been seen enough for viewers to clearly know what happened, and make their own judgments about what should happen next," said Michael Clemente,

executive vice president at Fox News. "Our judgment is that continuing to show it is simply overdoing it for shock value, and not for journalistic reasons."

During the 7 a.m. EDT news hour on Tuesday, the video clip aired 37 times on ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC, according to a count by Media Matters for America. In addition, the networks aired an old video showing Palmer outside of the elevator nine times, the group said.

Media Matters did not have a count on how many times the clip was aired on sports networks.

At a certain point, it becomes gratuitous, said Janelle Rodriguez, vice president of programming at CNN.

The networks defended airing the video in full, however, because it was clearly newsworthy.

NBC "Today" show spokeswoman Megan Kopf Stackhouse said the rule is to "air it with discretion only when necessary and not in a gratuitous or inflammatory manner."

Because of the nature of cable news networks, where it is assumed viewers don't stay for a long time so stories are repeated, it meant the video got plenty of airtime. That was particularly true at the ESPN networks, where there are 18 separate "Sportscenter"

newsworthiness, said Josh Krulewitz, ESPN's spokesman.

By late Tuesday morning, ESPN had decided to stop. "It was obviously quite disturbing and we felt the audience had seen it enough," Krulewitz said.

That doesn't mean por-

story called into question whether someone from the league had seen it prior to this week.

Leaders of womens' groups had mixed feelings about the ubiquity of the video shortly after its release.

"It's a very difficult thing for a victim of violence to have her abuse shown over and over again to the public," said Kim Gandy, president and CEO of the Washington, D.C.-based National Network to End Domestic Violence. "At the same time, it is creating a national conversation about domestic violence that could have the effect of saving lives."

She said she didn't need to see the video. "I know what happened," Gandy said.

The clear evidence of abuse, and the almost mundane way it took place, is very illuminating for the public, said Terry O'Neill, president of the National Organization for Women. Unlike many other crimes, people tend not to believe or to minimize domestic violence unless they see the direct evidence,



In this Jan. 16, 2013, file photo, Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice speaks during a news conference at the team's practice facility in Owings Mills, Md.

Associated Press

editions shown in a 24-hour period, and the Rice story was getting attention in all of them.

The reaction by the NFL in suspending Rice indefinitely and the Baltimore Ravens in cutting him from their team after this week's video surfaced proved its

tions won't return. When it began being discussed on Wednesday that Rice had spit on Palmer, ESPN began airing part of the video prior to the punch to see if that was true, Krulewitz said. The full video was not used later Wednesday when an Associated Press

Dispute over Duke Ellington royalties in court

MICHAEL VIRTANEN

Associated Press

ALBANY, New York (AP)

— Jazz composer Duke Ellington's grandson urged New York's highest court on Thursday to reinstate his lawsuit seeking half the foreign royalties from Ellington's music for his heirs.

The suit against publisher EMI Music alleges breach of the 1961 standard songwriter royalty contract the late pianist, bandleader and composer signed with Mills Music, predecessor of EMI, which is now part of global Sony/ATV Music Publishing. The contract calls for an even split of net revenue.

In the lawsuit, Paul Ellington says EMI should stop deducting 50 percent commissions to foreign subpublishers that its parent company now owns before splitting the rest with Ellington's heirs.



This June 1968 file photo shows big band leader Duke Ellington.

Associated Press

His attorney, Richard Scarola, told the Court of Appeals that the publishing giant passively collects royalties in Nashville, Tennessee. He called its

description of its foreign subpublishers "a fiction," saying that EMI China, for example, exists only as a piece of paper.

"As the world has changed

the interests of EMI today are exactly the opposite of the artist," Scarola said. Ellington and Mills had a common interest in spending what was needed to get his music published abroad, sometimes as little as 15 or 25 percent paid to foreign subpublishers instead of half, then sharing what was left, he said.

A judge dismissed the suit last year, concluding the company could pay foreign affiliates acquired after the contract was signed. A midlevel court agreed.

"The contract is clear. It's a net receipts agreement," attorney Donald Zakarin argued Thursday for EMI.

He said the foreign subpublishers are "sister companies" that are not owned by EMI Mills but instead are under common ownership by the group. He questioned why

it should now have to distribute in foreign markets for free.

The seven judges, who closely questioned both lawyers, are expected to rule next month.

Ellington wrote "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)" and other big band hits.

After the hearing, Scarola said "a substantial portion" of Ellington's catalog is involved and "hundreds of thousands of dollars" are at stake in this case. It potentially could involve millions of dollars on behalf of many artists from the same period if it's allowed to proceed and others join the lawsuit, he said.

Zakarin said it's hard to tell how much money is at stake. Other claims have come up occasionally but have been beaten on the merits in court, he said. □

Leading From Within



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2014 New York Times

I don't know what action will be sufficient to roll back both the Islamic State militant group and Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, but I do know what's necessary. And it's not "leading from behind," which didn't really work for President Barack Obama in Libya, and it isn't simply leading a lonely and unpopular charge from in front, which certainly didn't work for President George W. Bush in Iraq. It's actually reviving America's greatest strategy: leading from within.

The most effective leadership abroad starts with respect earned from others seeing us commit to doing great and difficult things at home that summon the energy of the whole country - and not just from our military families. That is how America inspires others to action. And the necessary impactful thing that America should do at home now is for the president and Congress to lift our self-imposed ban on U.S. oil exports, which would significantly dent the global high price of crude oil. And combine that with long overdue comprehensive tax reform that finally values our environment and security. That would be a carbon tax that is completely offset by lowering personal income, payroll and corporate taxes. Nothing would make us stronger and Putin and the Islamic State weaker - all at the same time.

How so? First you need to understand how much Putin and the Islamic State have in common. For starters, they each like to do their dirtiest work wearing a mask, because deep down, somewhere, they know that what they're doing is shameful. The Islamic State executioner actually wears a hood. Putin lies through his poker face.

Both seem to know that their ideas or influence are unsellable on their merits, so they have to impose them with intimidating force - "convert to puritanical Islam or I will chop your head off," says the Islamic State, and "submit to Russia's sphere of influence or I will invade you and wipe out your regime," says Putin.

Both are clearly motivated to use force by an intense desire to overcome past humiliations. For Putin, it is the humiliation over Russian weakness that followed the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991, which he once described as "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe" of the 20th century, and which left millions of Russian speakers outside the Russian state. And for the Islamic State, it is how modernity has left so many Arab/Muslim nations behind in the 21st century by all the critical indexes of human de-

velopment: education, economic growth, scientific discoveries, literacy, freedom and women's empowerment.

Preventing Ukrainians from exercising their free will is Putin's way of showing Russia's only real strength left: brute force. Beheading defenseless American journalists is the Islamic State's way of saying it is as strong as the United States. Both are looking for respect in all the wrong places.

Both Putin and the Islamic State are also intent on recreating states from an overglorified past to distract their peoples from their inability to build real economies - the Islamic State calls its re-creation the "caliphate" and Putin calls his "Novorossiya," or New Russia (or Ukraine's Russian-speaking southeast). Both are also intent on rewriting the prevailing rules of the international system, which they see as having been drawn up by America or the West to advantage themselves and disadvantage Arabs or Russians. And, very significantly, they both are totally dependent on exploiting high-priced oil or gas to finance their madness. The way you defeat such an enemy is by being "crazy like a fox," says Andy Karsner, the former assistant energy secretary in the last Bush administration and now the chief executive of Manifest Energy. "We have one bullet that hits both of them: bring down the price of oil. It's not like they can suddenly shift to making iWatches."

We are generating more oil and gas than ever, added Karsner, and it's a global market. Absurdly, he said, the U.S. government bans the export of our crude oil. "It's as if we own the world's biggest bank vault but misplaced the key," added Karsner. "Let's lift that export ban and have America shaping the market price in our own interest."

But that must be accompanied by tax reform that puts a predictable premium on carbon, ensuring that we unite to consistently invest in clean energies that take us beyond fossil fuels, increase efficiency and address climate change. Draining our enemies' coffers, enhancing security, taxing environmental degradation - what's not to like? And if we shift tax revenue to money collected from a carbon tax, we can slash income, payroll and corporate taxes, incentivize investment and hiring and unleash our economic competitiveness. That is a strategy hawks and doves, greens and big oil could all support.

If the price of oil plummets to just \$75 to \$85 a barrel from \$100 by lifting the ban, and we have implemented tax reform that signals our commitment to clean growth, we inevitably weaken Putin and the Islamic State, strengthen America and show the world that we deserve to lead because we're back to doing big, hard things at home that once again differentiate us - not just bombing in distant lands and pretending that's getting the job done.

Wouldn't it be refreshing, asked Karsner, if we showed up at the global poker table, across from Putin and the Islamic State, "holding four aces, instead of just bluffing with a pair of twos?" □



When Whites Just Don't Get It, Part 2



NICHOLAS KRISTOF
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In my column a week ago, "When Whites Just Don't Get It," I took aim at what I called "smug white delusion" about race relations in America, and readers promptly fired back at what they perceived as a smugly deluded columnist.

Readers grudgingly accepted the grim statistics I cited - such as the wealth disparity between blacks and whites in America today exceeding what it was in South Africa during apartheid - but many readers put the blame on African-Americans themselves.

"Probably has something to do with their unwillingness to work," Nils tweeted.

Nancy protested on my Facebook page: "We can't fix their problems. It's up to every black individual to stop the cycle of fatherless homes, stop the cycle of generations on welfare."

There was a deluge of such comments, some toxic, but let me try to address three principal arguments that I think prop up white delusion.

- First, if blacks are poor or in prison, it's all their fault. "Blacks don't get it," Bruce tweeted. "Choosing to be cool vs. getting good grades is a bad choice. We all start from 0."

Huh? Does anybody really think that we all take off from the same starting line?

Slavery and post-slavery oppression left a legacy of broken families, poverty, racism, hopeless-

ness and internalized self-doubt. Some responded to discrimination and lack of opportunity by behaving in self-destructive ways. One study found that African-American children on welfare heard only 29 percent as many words in their first few years as children of professional parents. Those kids never catch up, partly because they're more likely to attend broken schools.

Sure, some make bad choices, but they've often been on a trajectory toward failure from the time they were babies.

These are whirlpools that are difficult to escape, especially when society is suspicious and unsympathetic.

Japan has a stigmatized minority group, the burakumin, whose members once held jobs considered unclean. But although this is an occupational minority rather than a racial one, it spawned an underclass that was tormented by crime, educational failure, and substance abuse similar to that of the American underclass. So instead of pointing fingers, let's adopt some of the programs that I've cited with robust evidence showing that they bridge the chasm.

- But look at Asians, Mark protests on my Google Plus page: Vietnamese arrived in poverty - and are now school valedictorians. Why can't blacks be like that? There are plenty of black valedictorians.

But bravo to Asians and other immigrant groups for thriving in America with a strong cultural emphasis on education, diligence and delay of self-gratification. We should support programs with a good record of inculcating such values in disadvantaged children. But we also need to understand that many young people of color see no hope of getting ahead, and that despair can be self-fulfilling.

A successful person can say: "I worked hard in school. I got a job. The system worked." Good for you. But you probably also owe your success to parents who read to you, to decent schools,

to social expectations that you would end up in college rather than prison.

So count your blessings for winning the lottery of birth, and think about mentoring a kid who didn't.

- Look, the basic reason young black men are regarded with suspicion is that they're disproportionately criminals. The root problem isn't racism. It's criminality.

It's true that blacks accounted for 55 percent of robbery arrests in 2012, according to FBI statistics. But, by my calculations, it's also true that 99.9 percent of blacks were not arrested and charged with robbery in 2012, yet they are still tarred by this pernicious stereotype.

Criminality is real. So is inequity. So is stereotyping.

The U.S. Sentencing Commission concluded that black men get sentences one-fifth longer than white men for committing the same crimes.

In Louisiana, a study found that a person is 97 percent more likely to be sentenced to death for murdering a white person than a black person.

Mass incarceration means that the United States imprisons a higher proportion of its black population than apartheid South Africa did, further breaking up families. And careful studies find that employers are less likely to respond to a job inquiry and résumé when a typically black name is on it.

Society creates opportunity and resiliency for middle-class white boys who make mistakes; it is unforgiving of low-income black boys.

Of course, we need to promote personal responsibility. But there is plenty of fault to go around, and too many whites are obsessed with cultivating personal responsibility in the black community while refusing to accept any responsibility themselves for a system that manifestly does not provide equal opportunity.

Yes, young black men need to take personal responsibility. And so does white America. □

New York Fashion Week Wraps Up For Spring 2015

Vanessa Friedman

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - The fact that the final day of the New York collections also happened to be Sept. 11 is the sort of jarring coincidence that portends a collision of worlds: On that day, in this city, a tragedy occurred. Remembering it, how can we sit merrily by and look at skirts? It seems an impossible disconnect.

Except that fashion week and 9/11 have always been intertwined: On that day, in this city, the collections had already begun. That season, they did not continue. Some businesses never did. What happened here also happened to this industry.

And while fashion has a strange discomfort with acknowledging any sort of historical memory that it cannot redesign (don't expect any memorials on seats or in program notes; the show must go on!), this season felt less willfully ignorant about the time-space-product continuum than others have.

The past becomes part of the present. The question for designers is the shape it takes, literally, when it does.

In some cases, it leaked out in strange and oblique ways. At Boss on Wednesday, for example, the artistic director, Jason Wu, chose to hold his sophomore women's collection on ... the 56th floor of 4 World Trade Center.

It is possible to read the setting as a glaring case of stiletto-in-the-mouth (it was only the line's second season in New York after a 20-year hiatus), but it's also possible to see it as a pointed statement of intent: Things are still working. Especially given the mood of the collection, which was a step away from the clichés of corporate uniforms and toward a new, more personal kind of professional dress, like the neat 1960s-inspired shirtwaists cut by graphite lines, the geometric T-shirts and leather miniskirts, and a crisp white button-down paired with a slither of sil-



A model walks the runway in a dress in a dress by Diane von Furstenberg during New York Fashion Week in New York. For spring 2015, designers try to answer the eternal question, "What do women want?" (Elizabeth Lippman/The New York Times)

ver-beaded pencil skirt. A few hours later, the Proenza Schouler show took place on Wall Street, and as guests spilled out of the

building, they were met by the wrenching, elegiac sight of the annual twin beams of light shooting up from the plaza to the sky.



A model at the Boss show, which featured a personal kind of professional dress -- neat 1960s-inspired shirtwaists cut by graphite lines, geometric T-shirts and leather miniskirts, and a crisp white button-down paired with a slither of silver-beaded pencil skirt -- and was held on the 56th floor of 4 World Trade Center, during Fashion Week in New York.

(Richard Termine/The New York Times)

The brand was founded in 2002 (it is a child of the post-9/11 world), and the collection itself felt sort of purposefully uncomfortable and awkward, full of the wrestling of the next generation with the heritage of the last, with all its strange juxtapositions and uneasy alliances: between sportswear classics and complicated fabrics; vests and shirts and big skirts; orange and black, and forest green and white.

There were good ideas, like a terrific white anorak; argyle inflated into an idea of a graphic pattern; and a plain knit polo dress, with a band of python inset at the breast. And there were bad ones: paper leather trousers, one leg black, one orange; unfriendly shapes in the form of collars that choked the neck; and belted leather dresses that bunched at the waist. But while it didn't seem particularly enticing, it was hard to look away.

Interestingly, Reed Krakoff also played on the same basic themes - muddy colors (plus one terrific cobalt blue), mixed media (perforated leather, python, cotton), sportswear elevated through surface treatment - though his silhouettes

had a more timeless feel. There's an artiness to the effect of these clothes that can seem forced, but that also has a niche of its own. Designers don't get to choose the date of their show; they choose their day of the week and then tend to get locked in. So happenstance plays a role in all this. But by the time the Ralph Lauren show opened on Thursday with a parade of Gurkha (the brand's word) toned cargo pants and shantung safari suiting, and then segued into paratrooper jumpsuits in washed cotton and military-fatigue-green gowns in beaded tulle, it was hard not to feel some sense of convergence.

Though Lauren leavened the palette with pops of tangerine and citrine, and tops embroidered with dazzling ropes of costume jewelry beads, and though a pair of evening extravaganzas in gem-bedecked pink and yellow looked as if they had been teleported in from the Taj Mahal, the overwhelming message was utilitarian and toughened-up. It stood its ground.

And then Army gave way to navy at Calvin Klein.

Building on an elongated, narrow silhouette, the designer Francisco Costa layered "marine" midhigh tank dresses and tunics and leather jackets angled on a knife-edge over tone-on-tone flyaway wisps of skirts or cropped trousers, creating a false high waist by way of a belted sliver of stainless-steel tubing to reinforce the proportions and the purity of line.

The only decoration came in off-center exaggerated geometric shapes - rectangles or circles - appliquéd on the side of the topmost garment, and the only shift in color came from the addition of white or black, with a shot of red leather in the middle for spark, and a final step into the light via iridescent silver and cream.

Fashion may be bad at introspection, but one thing it does understand is moving forward. □